

'Gorbachev suffered food poisoning'

HAMBURG (AP) — A published report has said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was hospitalized for serious food poisoning in a possible attempt to kill him. The West German mass-circulation newspaper Bild, citing sources that occurred during his Black Sea vacation, said Mr. Gorbachev also escaped an apparent assassination attempt in February, when a police car filled with explosives was discovered one day before he visited Riga. Bild said Mr. Gorbachev had taken an "unusually long" vacation and had not been seen in public since Aug. 6. Kremlin officials, Bild said, had explained his absence as an extended vacation after hard work. But Mr. Gorbachev was taken ill three weeks into the vacation and was hospitalized, Bild said, adding that Soviet authorities were investigating whether the food poisoning was an attempt at Mr. Gorbachev's life. The newspaper said Mr. Gorbachev returned to Moscow last Friday, travelling from the Crimea by train instead of flying as usual.

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Bridges to close for two days

AMMAN (Petra) — The King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges across the River Jordan will be completely closed to travellers going to or from the occupied West Bank on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 24 and 25, according to a statement by the Public Security Department (PSD). The statement said that on Wednesday, Sept. 23, the King Hussein Bridge will allow up to 500 travellers to cross into the West Bank, while the Prince Mohammad Bridge will allow a maximum of 300. The two bridges will open for travel at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday but will close immediately after the entry of the allowed numbers, the statement said.

3 Arabs escape from Israeli jail

TEL AVIV (R) — Three Palestinian prisoners, two of them serving life terms, escaped on Monday from the maximum security Nafabeh jail in the Negev desert, Israeli sources said. A major operation involving helicopters and dogs was under way to recapture them. Earlier this year, six Arabs escaped from a military prison in the occupied Gaza Strip and only one was recaptured.

Lebanese union calls strike

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's General Labour Federation has called a one-day general strike throughout the country for Tuesday to protest the government's handling of the economic crisis. The federation said on Monday a major reason it was calling its fourth strike of the year was a government decision on Friday to raise petrol prices by 133 per cent. The government said the price rise was necessary because it could no longer afford to subsidise petrol.

Chinese and Soviet ministers meet

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — China says it would accept a Kampuchean government of national reconciliation under Prince Norodom Sihanouk, but withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea remains the major obstacle to normalising Sino-Soviet relations. Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian made the statement to a meeting Sunday with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze on the normalisation of relations between the two nations.

Gorbachev may visit L. America

MIAMI (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will travel to Latin America this week in what might be the prelude to an unprecedented visit to the region by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, a newspaper reported Monday. Mr. Shevardnadze, who is scheduled to leave for Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay after attending this week's U.N. General Assembly meeting in New York, will be the highest-ranking Soviet official to visit Latin America since 1975, when Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev travelled to Cuba. The Soviet embassy said no dates have been set for a visit by Mr. Gorbachev.

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Jordan, welcoming Arab decision to hold summit here, pledges to seek solidarity

Dudin: Arab League will decide agenda for talks

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan welcomes the Arab League foreign ministers decision to hold an extraordinary summit in Amman on Nov. 8 to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and dangers it poses for the Arab Nation, acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin said Monday.

Mr. Dudin noted that the summit was of a great significance due to the serious and grave issues which it would discuss and said that Jordan would do all within its capacity to make the summit a success and to achieve Arab unity and solidarity in the face of dangers threatening the Arab Nation.

Speaking to reporters after bidding farewell to Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari at the Queen Alia International Airport, Mr. Dudin said Jordan was "pleased with the consensus reached in Tunis" by the Arab League Council of Ministers and that Amman was chosen as a venue for the summit.

Asked about the topics on the Nov. 8 summit's agenda, Mr. Dudin said Jordan would leave the door open for proposals by the Arab League on the topics to be tackled.

The decision to convene the summit was unanimous by the council. But Syria indicated that it wanted to give priority to the Arab-Israeli conflict rather than the Gulf war.

Commenting on the reported Syrian reservations over the summit's proposed agenda, Mr. Dudin said he had not been officially informed of such Syrian reservations. However, he said that "we understand the reservations of Syria or of Libya, but the reservations of one or two (Arab League) members are not the end of the world." He added that such reservations were "just another good reason for holding a



Marwan Dudin
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Japan promises continued assistance to Jordan

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari on Monday pledged more Japanese economic assistance to Jordan, saying Tokyo appreciated the Kingdom's efforts towards a peaceful settlement to the Palestine question and a solution to the Iran-Iraq war.

In an airport statement prior to his departure for New York to attend U.N. General Assembly sessions, Mr. Kuranari described his talks with Jordanian officials as "short but fruitful discussions." He praised His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for their "vitality in efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraq conflict."

"We are aware in Japan of Jordan's efforts in Middle East peace initiatives," Mr. Kuranari said through an interpreter. He cited the presence of Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan and said Japan would "like to continue economic cooperation."

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Nobutake Odano said Sunday Japan would give assistance to Jordan's five-year development programme for the occupied West Bank and Gaza in addition to Tokyo's financial and technical assistance programmes to the Kingdom.

The Japanese foreign minister said Monday his country backed Jordan's call for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Mr. Kuranari held talks with Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin and acting Minister of Planning Rajal Muasher during his two-day stay here.

During his meeting with Dr. Muasher, the Japanese minister discussed economic cooperation between the two countries and technology transfers from Japan to Jordan. Dr. Muasher reviewed with Mr. Kuranari Jordan's development plans and discussed ways for joint Jordanian-Japanese investment in the agricultural and technological fields. The meeting was attended by Mr. Dudin.

On his talks in Baghdad earlier this week, Mr. Kuranari, who also visited Tehran in June, said his country was "a common friend of Iran and Iraq."

"We truly hope for a peaceful solution to the conflict as soon as possible," the Japanese minister said. He told reporters Tokyo had been making efforts towards creating "a suitable environment" for a solution to the Gulf war. He did not elaborate.

Japan has very close economic ties with both belligerents. On Sunday, Iraq awarded a long-awaited billion-dollar oil pipeline contract to an international consortium led by Japan and Italy. Japan also has large contracts with Iran.

Following Mr. Kuranari's departure, Mr. Dudin told reporters Jordan understood Japan's low-key diplomacy in the Gulf and said the Kingdom encouraged Tokyo in its endeavours. "We encourage them to continue the good work," the minister said.

Mr. Dudin criticised the foreign military presence in the Gulf and the reflagging of Kuwaiti ships by American navy warships. "With all due respect to the armada (in the Gulf), we believe more in (achieving) serious discussions to end the war. We don't think raising (foreign) flags or getting the oil out of the Gulf is a solution."

He described the above measures as "plastic surgery arrangements." He urged more work towards acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 for a Gulf war ceasefire.

On economic cooperation, Mr. Dudin said the Jordanian and Japanese sides agreed to enhance cooperation within already existing bilateral agreements. He said that Japan's economic assistance to Jordan was "abundant and generous."

Masked men beat up Birzeit professor who met Likud aide

Shamir denies knowledge of contacts with Sari Nuseibeh

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Masked men with clubs on Monday beat up a Palestinian activist who had secret talks on Middle East peace moves with an Israeli politician, Palestinian news reports and hospital sources said.

At the same time, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir reprimanded the politician for meeting with the Palestinian and a party colleague recommended his expulsion from the Likud bloc, Israel Radio said.

Professor Sari Nuseibeh was beaten with clubs by five or six masked men at the Birzeit University campus in the occupied West Bank, according to the Palestine Press Service.

Mr. Nuseibeh was taken to the nearby Ramallah hospital, where he was reported in "fairly good condition" after suffering a head wound that required seven stitches and a smashed elbow, said hospital spokesman Dr. Yasser Obaid.

Mr. Nuseibeh refused to talk to reporters at the hospital and remained secluded with family members, Israel Radio said.

Mr. Nuseibeh, a respected

professor of philosophy at Birzeit and son of former Jordanian Defence Minister Anwar Nuseibeh, held talks with Moshe Amirav of Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc.

Participants in the talks included two other PLO supporters in the West Bank, Faisal Hussein and Sallah Zuhair.

Mr. Hussein, head of the Arab Studies Society, is believed to have close ties with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and was ordered detained for six months last week for "national security" reasons. Mr. Zuhair is editor of the pro-PLO Al Sha'ah newspaper.

Mr. Nuseibeh said Sunday he had discussed Palestinian reaction to a possible interim Middle East peace agreement with Mr. Amirav.

Mr. Amirav confirmed the meetings took place but the office of Mr. Shamir denied knowledge of the talks and condemned them.

The attackers, with traditional headaddresses covering their faces, were believed to be student supporters of Palestinian groups opposed to attempts by PLO

Chairman Yasser Arafat to hold indirect contacts with Israeli leaders, sources quoted by Reuters said.

An unsigned leaflet distributed later at Birzeit said that Palestinians who met Zionists were not wanted on campus.

The Birzeit Student Council issued a statement that condemned Palestinian-Israeli peace contacts but also denounced violence on campus.

Mr. Shamir condemned Mr. Amirav for meeting the Palestinians and insisted he had no prior knowledge of the contacts.

"Shamir did not know about these contacts and he absolutely opposed them," said a statement issued by Mr. Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner. "Maybe Nuseibeh and Hussein took advantage of Amirav's innocence but it has nothing to do with the Likud."

PLO supporters have been attacked before by Palestinian radicals in Israeli-occupied territories, the best known case being the 1986 killing of newly appointed Nahlas Mayor Zafar

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U.S. warns IAEA against ousting S. Africa and Israel

VIENNA (AP) — A U.S. official said Monday that U.S. participation in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) could be under threat if the 113-member organisation votes this week to expel South Africa and Israel.

U.S. Energy Secretary John Herrington, in an interview with AP, said the IAEA should resist pressure from the Soviet bloc and Arab states, among others, to oust South Africa and Israel.

"When an organisation like this becomes political, it loses credibility," Mr. Herrington said. He added that the IAEA would not be effective or win public trust if it failed to keep membership of nuclear "players" like South Africa and Israel.

Mr. Herrington said he had received indications Monday morning that South Africa might be willing to sign the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, something it has so far refused to do.

So far, South Africa has only been willing to submit some of its nuclear power facilities to IAEA inspection. There has been persistent speculation internationally that South Africa has the capability to make a nuclear bomb.

If it does agree to sign the 1968 accord, South Africa would have to reach agreement with the IAEA on inspection of its nuclear facilities.

The United States is responsible for about 25 per cent of the budget of the IAEA, a United Nations affiliated organisation which celebrated its 30th anniversary earlier this year.

The U.S. contribution of \$34 million is still outstanding for this year's budget of \$150 million, and Washington has paid only \$7.5

UNICEF defies war to vaccinate Lebanon's children

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's warring factions have put aside their hostilities to allow the vaccination of tens of thousands of children in clinics across the country.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) aims to reach every corner of the small war-torn country, its 762 vaccination centres covering major cities and more than 2,000 villages.

"We will vaccinate some 350,000 children in three days, giving them a shield of protection against killer diseases that threaten their lives in this time of economic hardship," said Richard Reid, UNICEF's Middle East and North Africa director.

Mr. Reid told Reuters that more infants and children may now be dying from lack of food than from violence because of Lebanon's economic crisis.

More than 1,000 children died of malnutrition and infection every year and 5,000 more became handicapped, Mr. Reid said.

"We have strong indications of increasing infant mortality in Lebanon. Any time you have a country with severe economic situations, we know children are not getting the right protein nourishment," he said.

"Children who die from malnutrition are hidden and not registered. Their death is not dramatic... this is true of all countries at war," Mr. Reid added.

"The campaign plans to completely protect vaccinated children against six infectious diseases: tuberculosis, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio and measles," Mr. Reid said.

"Particular attention has been paid to suburbs around the cities and remote villages. Numerous vaccination teams and centres have been created. The campaign will cover all regions of the country," he said.

Mr. Reid, 48, who is based in Amman, read a statement on behalf of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to the people of Lebanon, congratulating them on the major national immunisation campaign.

"I hope and pray that these efforts will also serve as a bridge to peace and greater understanding in your country," the statement said.

The World Health Organisation (WHO), Lebanon's Health Ministry and non-governmental groups will participate in the vaccination campaign.

If all goes well in the next three days, the \$34 million UNICEF campaign will continue with two further three-day vaccination periods in October and November.

American president hails arms accord but reaffirms commitment to SDI

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan said on Monday the United States and the Soviet Union would seek to hold on last week's advances on arms control but reaffirmed his intention to forge ahead with his "Star Wars" missile defence programme.

In a speech to the U.N. General Assembly, Mr. Reagan also called on Nicaragua to institute reforms, saying the world would not accept "phony democratisation."

Mr. Reagan hailed the U.S.-Soviet agreement in principle last week to what he called a truly historic treaty abolishing American and Soviet medium-range and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

He and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are expected to sign a treaty on intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) in Washington this autumn.

"We are heartened by new prospects for improvement in East-West and particularly U.S.-Soviet relations," Mr. Reagan said.

Mr. Reagan said the two sides

Iraqi planes bomb targets near Tehran

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Monday its warplanes hit more than 480 kilometres into Iran Monday to bomb an oil pumping station near the capital, Tehran, while other formations attacked industrial targets in the northwest.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the jets hit the Eshen pumping station, which supplies Tehran's petroleum needs, at 12.15 p.m. (0815 GMT).

It said that other formations simultaneously bombed a power plant and a factory near the northwestern city of Bakhtaran, formerly known as Kermanshah.

A military communiqué, carried by INA, said the Iraqi jets "scored accurate and effective hits" in all three raids and returned safely to their base "leaving their targets burning."

"Our attacks on Iran's economic lifeline will continue until the Iranian regime yields to the international community's calls for peace," the communiqué added.

Tehran Radio acknowledged that the Iraqi warplanes had struck "industrial targets" in northwestern Iran. But it made no mention of an air attack near Tehran.

Iraqi warplanes hit an Iranian tanker in the northern Gulf on Sunday and regional shipping sources said several people were wounded.

It was the second confirmed hit on a tanker since Iraq resumed the war following a peace mission to Tehran and Baghdad by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Iranians raid British tanker

BAHRAIN (AP) — A British-flag tanker was attacked and set on fire, apparently by Iranian gunboats off an Iranian-held island in the northern Gulf Monday night, shipping salvage sources reported. Two members of the crew were reported missing in the attack on the 102,799-tonne tanker Gentle Breeze, the sources said.

The ship was sailing empty en route to Kuwait when the attack occurred, said the sources. The attack took place about 9 p.m. (1800 GMT) some 32 kilometres west of Farsi, a small island that is used by Iranian Revolutionary Guards for speedboat attacks against neutral shipping in the area.

After the first attack, an Iranian gunboat peppered a Saudi tanker with machinegun fire but caused no casualties and only minor damage.

Iraq on Monday said it did not fear arbitration to decide who started the war.

"(Iran) was itself the party to reject all Iraqi... proposals calling for the formation of a committee to investigate the facts of which party started the war," said Al Thawra, newspaper of the ruling Iraqi Baath Party.

Iraq started the war anyway, it added.

Iraq on Monday said its oil was still getting out, despite the Iraqi air raids, and this was confirmed by oil industry sources.

Druze leader bids farewell to fighters leaving for Libya

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An airlift of Lebanese militia mercenaries recruited to fight alongside the Libyan army in Chad was scheduled to begin Monday, a spokesman for Druze warlord Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) said.

The spokesman, who declined to be named, said about 1,000 fighters will fly out from Damascus, capital of neighbouring Syria, to the Libyan capital of Tripoli in batches of 150 after travelling by road from Lebanon.

"Barring unforeseen hitches, the airlift will be completed by Wednesday," the spokesman said.

Most of the recruits belong to the PSP, considered one of the strongest Lebanese militias in Lebanon's 12-year-old civil war against Falangists.

Other Libya-bound fighters were recruited from the Moscow-oriented Lebanese Communist Party, the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, a leftist Lebanese faction that advocates the creation of a greater Syria.

The parties held a send-off rally Sunday in the Shout Mountain town of Ein Zhalta for the departing recruits at which leaders paid tribute to Libyan strongman Col. Muammar Qadhafi.

The Libyan leader has long backed the opposition in Lebanon with money and weapons.

"You are going away to fight alongside our Libyan brothers under the leadership of Col. Qadhafi for the unification of the Arab world," said Junblatt.

"This is a token of gratitude for Libya's help at times of distress," said Communist Party leader George Hana.

"We are confident that you will fight valiantly for Libya," he said.

Beirut newspapers published excerpts of the speeches and photographs of the Ein Zhalta rally Sunday.

The militia fighters have signed up for \$200 a month for a private, \$500 for a non-commissioned officer, \$1,000 for an officer and

\$1,500 for an engineer.

That is big money in Lebanon, which is gripped by a deteriorating economic crisis caused by the civil war.

Inflation is running at 208 per cent and unemployment is widespread.

The Lebanese pound, once the soundest currency in the Middle East, has collapsed from 2.5 to the dollar before the war broke out in 1975 to 275 this month. It plunged below 300 to the dollar last month.

Libyan government emissaries supervised the one-month recruiting campaign in the Shout and the western sector of the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon, PSP officials said.

Libya and Chad have been engaged in an intermittent border war for the last decade.

Mr. Junblatt attacked France for supporting Chad, "God damn France if it is going to be against Islam," he told reporters.

Mr. Junblatt, wearing blue jeans and a black leather jacket, was cheered by the militiamen at a barracks surrounded by pines and decked with the red flags of the PSP.

The militiamen have been recruited by Libya to fight Chad under the command of Jamal Hamad, an officer in Mr. Junblatt's "popular army," the military wing of the PSP.

Asked whether he would receive aid for sending his men to Libya to fight, Mr. Junblatt told reporters: "Yes, Yes, Yes. It is no secret Libya offers us financial and military help."

The farewell was attended by a four-man Libyan delegation headed by Youssef Al Dabri, Col. Qadhafi's special representative and head of the "office for fighting imperialism and Zionism."

Hamad, a tall dark-haired fighter in his 30s, said 157 men would leave for Libya via Damascus on Monday aboard a Libyan aircraft.

"We are coming Muammar, give us the Kalashnikov," chanted the recruits, veterans of Lebanon's 12-year civil war. They wore Soviet-supplied light green fatigues and wide brimmed hats. And were not armed.

Diplomats say Lebanon's economic ills have hit Mr. Junblatt's followers hard and that the PSP needs foreign currency to maintain its stronghold in Shout Mountains.

Some recruits said they were going to fight in Libya to show solidarity with fellow Arabs. Others said they need the money.

"I don't know why I'm going to Libya or why Libya is fighting Chad but I am fed up with life in Lebanon," one said.

"We have become war addicts," said another.

Mr. Junblatt has about 5,000 men under arms, but analysts say he could mobilise twice that number if the need arose.

Mr. Junblatt said agreement to send the Druze and Communist militias to Libya was made when he visited Tripoli last month.

"We will not go to the front line immediately. It will take us a month to get used to the weather and the desert and the fighting in desert conditions," Hamad said.

But after that, we can't wait to get to the front. The recruits will bring medical teams, cooks, a barber and tailor — but not weapons.

Hamad said there were plenty of weapons in Libya. "We will probably come back to Lebanon with our own arms," he added.

As Mr. Junblatt left the barracks, some recruits hugged their relatives and voiced fears that they might not return alive.

"Death is the same everywhere, but I'm afraid we might be coming back in boxes," one fighter said.

Zambia to host Chad-Libya peace talks today

LUSAKA (R) — Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Chairman Kenneth Kaunda hosts a special meeting this week to bring Chad and Libya to the negotiating table, ending one of Africa's longest running conflicts.

The meeting follows an OAU-sponsored ceasefire between Chad and Libya, which was introduced on Sept. 11 and engineered by Zambian President Kaunda, who visited the two countries on a mediation mission last month.

Mr. Kaunda has made solving the Chad-Libya war a major priority since he was elected OAU chairman in July and is optimistic about the prospects of a peaceful settlement.

But uncertainty remained whether Chadian President Hissene Habre and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi would attend the talks in Lusaka on Tuesday and Wednesday.

A Zambian Foreign Ministry spokesman told Reuters that heads of state of members of an OAU committee on the Chad-Libya dispute — Gabon, Cameroon, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal and Algeria — were invited to take part. Mr. Habre and Col. Qadhafi had also been asked to attend.

The spokesman said the Zambian government had received no confirmation yet who would actually be coming.

Western diplomats in Lusaka said Mr. Habre had indicated he would attend.

They said Chad wanted to be seen as willing to take part in the OAU-sponsored peace move, the latest by the pan-African body since Libya annexed the disputed Saharan border strip of Aouzou in 1973.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) reported on Monday that Col. Qadhafi told Gabonese President Omar Bongo, the chairman of the committee, that he would not attend.

Libyan Foreign Secretary Jeddallah Azzouzi Al Talhi has said the Lusaka meeting was "too hurried" and that conditions for such a meeting did not exist.

But Col. Qadhafi was unrepentant, the diplomats said, and could show up at the last minute.

Col. Qadhafi said on Wednesday that the conflict between the two sides was over. Following several major battles in the last month, Libyan forces regained control of the town of Aouzou in the disputed border strip with the same name on Aug. 29.

But Chad, which is backed by some 1,200 French troops with fighter jets, rejected the Libyan peace overture, saying the war would only end when Libya pulled out of Aouzou.

Since the ceasefire, Chad has said Libya was violating its airspace. Libya has said its forces were complying with the ceasefire.

Rafsanjani: France offered Gordji in exchange for hostages release

PARIS (R) — France has pledged to drop a police summons against an Iranian embassy interpreter if Iran secures the release of French hostages in Lebanon, the speaker of the Iranian parliament said.

Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said in an interview published on Sunday by the magazine Jeune Afrique that France offered the deal during secret talks in Geneva.

The French Foreign Ministry declined to comment.

France and Iran cut diplomatic relations on July 17 after Iranian embassy interpreter Wahid Gordji rejected a summons to face questioning about bomb attacks in the French capital last year.

Since the diplomatic rupture, France has refused to allow staff in the Iranian mission to leave the country until Gordji appears before French anti-terrorism authorities.

Iran has retaliated by holding French diplomats in Tehran and by accusing a French diplomat, Paul Torri, of spying and black-marketeering.

In the interview, Mr. Rafsanjani said France was trying to use Gordji to pressure Iran into intervening on behalf of five Frenchmen held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

"This is what they declared clearly through Pakistan during

secret negotiations that lasted several days in Geneva," he said. Pakistan has acted as Iran's representative in France since the diplomatic break. France is represented in Tehran by Italy.

"We had to remind them that Lebanon does not belong to us and is in no way under our control even if we enjoy certain sympathies there," Mr. Rafsanjani added.

He said Iran was eager to end the so-called embassy war, offering to drop charges against Torri, France's first consul in Tehran, if France abandoned its demand to question Gordji.

France has rejected any link between Gordji and Torri, saying its diplomat is the victim of trumped up charges.

Mr. Rafsanjani also repeated Iranian allegations that before parliamentary elections in France last year, right-wing groups asked Iran to block efforts by the then Socialist government to free hostages in Lebanon.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has strongly denied the charges, first made in an Iranian newspaper in July.

Mr. Rafsanjani said a right-wing envoy had been sent to Tehran before the parliamentary poll.

"If these facts continue to be denied we will be forced to produce documents we have kept on the subject," he added.

Meanwhile the Beirut magazine which revealed U.S.-Iran arms deals said on Sunday plans were being drawn up for the release of all foreign hostages in Lebanon.

An advance copy of the weekly magazine Ash Shiraa, which last November broke the news of secret U.S. arms supplies to Iran, quoted a well-informed source as saying a breakthrough was imminent on the plight of the hostages.

The source said it was "likely to be at the end of September after recent efforts that led to the release of U.S. freelance journalist Charles Glass and the German, Alfred Schmidt."

Glass reappeared in Beirut on Aug. 18 after two months in captivity, while Schmidt was freed and taken to Damascus on Sept. 7.

At least 27 more foreigners are missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon. They include nine Americans and seven French nationals.

Ash Shiraa's source said prospects for British church envoy Terry Waite's release were good after contacts had "achieved a great success." He did not elaborate.

Ash Shiraa's editor, Hassan Sabra, was shot and badly wounded by a gunman in Muslim west Beirut last Monday.

The 44-year-old journalist is recovering in hospital.

Egyptian airliner crashes; 5 crew killed

CAIRO (AP) — An A-300 Airbus passenger plane crashed Monday during a training flight near southern Egypt's Luxor Airport, killing the five crewmen, airport officials in Cairo and Luxor said.

Mohammad Abdul Azim, an air controller at Cairo International Airport said the crash occurred at 9:05 a.m. (0705 GMT). He said there were no passengers on board, and the bodies of the five crewmen were found in the desert at the airport's edge.

The airport at Luxor, 720 kilometres south of Cairo, was upgraded this year to handle international air traffic. Luxor is a major tourist attraction, with a wealth of Pharaonic antiquities including the Karnak Temple Complex on the east bank of the Nile River and the Valley of the King Necropolis on the river's western bank.

Mr. Abdul Azim and a Luxor air controller who would not give his name said the plane touched down at the airport and was to have taken off immediately in what is known as touch-and-go practice.

They said the Airbus failed to gain altitude, overshot the runway, rammed navigational instruments at the edge and crashed into the desert sand nearby.

Spadolini in Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — Italian Senate President Giovanni Spadolini arrived Monday on a two-day visit.

He told reporters at Cairo Airport that he was carrying a message to President Hosni Mubarak from Italian President Francesco Cossiga.

Mr. Spadolini said he will meet with Mr. Mubarak on Tuesday.

3-day Lebanese press strike ends

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon's newspapers and magazines returned to the newsstands Monday after a three-day strike to protest attempts on the lives of journalists.

But as the newspapers went to print Sunday night, Ahmad Musawi, national editor of the Ash Shura newspaper, was shot and wounded, becoming the third

newspaperman to escape assassination in one week, police said.

An official at the American University Hospital said Mr. Musawi, 56, suffered three bullet wounds. He underwent surgery during the night and was "recovering satisfactorily," said the official who requested anonymity.

Police said they have no clue as to the identity or motive of the attacker, who fired at Mr. Musawi as he drove to his home in the Shi'ite Muslim suburb of Ghobeiri. The attackers escaped on foot.

All 13 dailies and 12 weeklies had been on strike since Friday to protest what the unions of publishers and editors described as "assaults on freedom."

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Col. Qadhafi said on Wednesday that the conflict between the two sides was over. Following several major battles in the last month, Libyan forces regained control of the town of Aouzou in the disputed border strip with the same name on Aug. 29.

But Chad, which is backed by some 1,200 French troops with fighter jets, rejected the Libyan peace overture, saying the war would only end when Libya pulled out of Aouzou.

Since the ceasefire, Chad has said Libya was violating its airspace. Libya has said its forces were complying with the ceasefire.

Japanese experts find new cavities in Pyramid

GIZA, Egypt (R) — Japanese experts have found new cavities inside the 5,000-year-old Pyramid of Cheops and believe they could change the conventional theory that it is mostly filled with stones.

"We believe the Pyramid has more space than people think," said team leader Sakuyoshi Yoshimura.

"If we can prove it, that means the Pyramid is not made up of millions of stones but only around 200,000 blocks."

The Pyramid of Cheops, known as the Great Pyramid, is one of three big pyramids at Giza near Cairo, believed to be tombs of three Pharaohs (kings) of ancient Egypt.

If London's Houses of Parliament and Saint Paul's Cathedral were placed inside the area of its base, there would still be space unoccupied.

Yoshimura said he was puzzled that the rooms in the Cheops Pyramid — called the King's

Chamber, the Queen's Chamber, the Grand Gallery — and connecting passages lay to the east of its centre, with no cavities evident to the west.

If he can prove his theory that the Pyramid contains more space than stone, the Pyramid would become a "soft structure" in architectural terms.

It would also date this method of Pyramid-building to the old kingdom of Egyptian archaeology, earlier than previously thought, he said.

"We have made a new find which is very important, very mysterious," Yoshimura told Reuters.

Using electromagnetic scanners to probe sound-waves behind interior surfaces, his team found a 30-metre passage parallel to the so-called Queen's Chamber, apparently veering off to the west side of the Pyramid, previously thought to contain only stones.

"This is a key to a possible connection between the east and west sides of the Pyramid," he said.

He said two other spaces were found in the King's Chamber, one under the Pharaoh's sarcophagus, the other between the chamber and the Grand Gallery, a steep limestone passage 45 metres long and nine metres high.

After research in February on Cheops Pyramid and the nearby Sphinx, a monument with a human face and a lion's body, Yoshimura's team from Tokyo's Waseda University returned on a nine-day expedition this month to confirm previous findings.

Yoshimura, sweat pouring down his face in the musty, humid interior, said he did not believe the Pyramid was built by Cheops as his tomb despite the discovery of new cavities.

"We should find passages, corridors, but not Cheops' tomb," he said. "Possibly a burial cham-

ber (containing funerary objects) but not a tomb."

His theory is that the Pyramid was built as a symbolic festival hall for souls on their return from the afterworld.

"About 99 per cent of the ancient Egyptians buried their dead underground," he said, contrasting this with burial in a Pyramid above ground.

He said the tomb of Cheops, whose mummy was never found and was thought stolen by grave-robbars, was probably west of his Pyramid, in a different-shaped structure.

Yoshimura stressed his theories could take a long time to prove and would require more studies.

"But we will not hurry with our investigations because 5,000 years have passed since the Pyramid was built. We have waited that long, we have much time," Yoshimura said.

Turkish foreign minister to quit parliament

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Foreign Minister Yalvar Hilefoglu, now in New York for the U.N. General Assembly session, plans to leave parliament after November's general election, ruling Mr. Turgut Ozal's party officials said on Monday.

They said Mr. Hilefoglu, 69, had not applied by Sunday's

deadline to stand as a candidate for the Motherland Party.

Mr. Hilefoglu, an ex-ambassador to Bonn, became foreign minister in 1985, the only non-parliamentary cabinet appointment. He joined the ruling party a year later and entered parliament after a 1986 by-election.

Party officials said new candidates included Adnan Kahveci, 39, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's chief adviser who has been called "a one man think tank."

The list of 1,894 Motherland Party candidates includes Turkish film actress Hulya Kocoglu, said to be the choice of Ozal's wife, Semra, who is keen to have more women in politics.

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TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION	12:00 News Summary 12:05 Evening Show Continued 12:00 News Summary
PRIME TIME	15:30 News Summary 15:35 Evening Show Continued 15:40 News Summary 15:45 Evening Show Continued 15:50 News Summary 15:55 Evening Show Continued 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Evening Show Continued 16:10 News Summary 16:15 Evening Show Continued 16:20 News Summary 16:25 Evening Show Continued 16:30 News Summary 16:35 Evening Show Continued 16:40 News Summary 16:45 Evening Show Continued 16:50 News Summary 16:55 Evening Show Continued 17:00 News Summary 17:05 Evening Show Continued 17:10 News Summary 17:15 Evening Show Continued 17:20 News Summary 17:25 Evening Show Continued 17:30 News Summary 17:35 Evening Show Continued 17:40 News Summary 17:45 Evening Show Continued 17:50 News Summary 17:55 Evening Show Continued 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Evening Show Continued 18:10 News Summary 18:15 Evening Show Continued 18:20 News Summary 18:25 Evening Show Continued 18:30 News Summary 18:35 Evening Show Continued 18:40 News Summary 18:45 Evening Show Continued 18:50 News Summary 18:55 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King honours envoy to Britain with medal

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred on Jordan's ambassador-designate to the United Kingdom the Jordan Independence Medal of the First Order, according to an announcement here Monday.

The announcement said that King Hussein decorated Albert Butros with the medal during his recent visit to London, in the presence of Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem.

Resources team to tour gas operations in Algeria

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) will go to Algeria by the end of September to look into the country's experience in exploring for gas and in manufacturing equipment used in exploration operations.

Abdullah Rousan, director of the NRA's Petroleum Department, said that the visit is in implementation of Algerian-Jordanian agreement to exchange information and expertise on oil-related matters. Mr. Rousan, who will lead the delegation, will hold talks with officials in Algeria's oil services, as well as tour a number of oil installations.

He said the NRA will set up shortly a unit that will be charged with all drilling operations, and that the authority, in the coming year, will purchase a rig that can drill down to 6000 metres. The purchase of the new rig will enable the NRA to dispose of the present rigs which are on loan from different foreign companies.

Meanwhile, sources at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources were quoted by the Al-Dustour Arabic newspaper as saying that Jordan expects to make oil discoveries that will fulfill the country's needs in the 1990s.

The sources said efforts for prospecting for oil and gas in Jordan have intensified, and it is hoped that there will be sufficient gas at the commercial level by 1989.

According to the sources, more information will be available on natural gas found in Rishe fields during the next few months.

Klibi assails Israeli actions against W. Bank, Gaza Arabs

TUNIS (Petra) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi condemned the arbitrary measures taken by Israeli authorities against Arab citizens in the Occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip aimed at evicting them from their land. These practices, he added, include the confiscation of Arab lands, the seizure of water resources, and various terrorist actions.

Mr. Klibi was addressing the morning session of Arab League's 88th Ordinary Session which was resumed here on Monday, at permanent representatives level, after it was opened Sunday at foreign ministers level.

The Arab League secretary-general also stressed the need for Arab solidarity to confront challenges facing the Arab Nation.

He also reviewed developments in the Iran-Iraq war and its impact on regional, as well as international, peace and security.

Mr. Klibi called on member Arab states to pay their contributions to the Arab League's budget and its specialised organisations.

The current ordinary session is discussing a number of major topics, including a ministerial committee report on the condition of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, as well as a review of Palestinian refugee affairs in host Arab states.

Other topics to be discussed are: the Iran-Iraq war, Iranian-Israeli armament cooperation, Israeli penetration in Asia, a draft law submitted to the U.S. Congress for transferring the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, Afro-Israeli relations, Afro-Arab cooperation, Arab-European dialogue, and status of the Arab Fund for Technical Aid.

Jordan's delegation to the meeting is headed by its ambassador in Tunis, Tala Al Hassan, who is also Jordan's permanent envoy at the Arab League.

Contract signed for work on phase two of Sahab Industrial City

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Contracting and Investment Company (ICICO) on Monday signed a contract with the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) for carrying out work on the second phase of the Sahab Industrial City (SIC) south of Amman.

Under the contract, the local firm will establish the infrastructure, which includes roads, water and sewerage networks, and electrical cables for 50 hectares of land. It also includes the construction of 18,000 square metres of steel factory buildings of three types, and the addition of a wastewater treatment plant to the phase one infrastructure.

The cost of the phase two infrastructure is JD 1.85 million, and the total area of land allotted for the project is approximately 170 hectares.

The total cost of the second phase of the SIC will be JD 7 million, of which JD 1.2 million has been spent on design work and preparation, and around JD 2 million on levelling and ground works at the site. According to JIEC sources, the European Investment Bank is providing 50 per cent of the cost of the project.

The agreement was signed by JIEC Director-General Fawaz Suheimat and the acting director of the ICICO.

UNESCO higher education conference aims at furthering support for degree recognition agreement by Arab states

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The third session of the regional committee responsible for the application of the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas, and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab States, began Monday with an opening address by Muhammad Ibrahim Kazim, regional director and coordinator of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) office in Amman.

In his remarks at the opening session of the four-day conference, Dr. Kazim welcomed representatives from Arab states who have already endorsed the recognition agreement and expressed optimism over the participation of those Arab states who have not yet signed the accord.

The agreement entails the recognition of a certificate, qualification, diploma, or degree of higher education obtained in one of the contracting states and its acceptance by the competent authorities of the other states, resulting in granting the holder the rights extended to the holder of a similar document who has acquired it in that particular state.

Such rights extend to either the pursuit of studies, the practice of a profession, or both, according to the applicability of the recognition.

In addition, the accord defines higher education as all types of education and research at post-secondary level. Such an education is open to all persons who have obtained a diploma or certificate attesting that they have successfully completed their

studies in their respective countries.

Dr. Kazim noted that such an agreement is similar to plans adopted by other UNESCO regional offices, and expressed his hope that an international resolution would be the result of the agreements adopted by the various regional offices.

The countries who have signed the agreement are: Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, and the Yemen Arab Republic.

The opening session also included a speech by the secretary of the convention in which the main points and resolutions adopted in the two earlier conventions were outlined.

Another speech was made by a representative from the UNESCO head office, in which he described the agreement, adopted by regional branches and showed the similarities between these plans and the one signed by the 11 Arab states.

Amman governor urges public role in development

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin on Monday stressed the importance of public participation in development plans and called on all citizens to play a major role in making the development plans successful.

Addressing a meeting held at the Amman Governorate premises, Mr. Amin called on chairmen of all development zones in Amman Governorate to shoulder their responsibilities towards implementation of the plan.

During the meeting, which was attended by provincial governors and heads of education, Awqaf, and communications departments in Amman Governorate, there was a discussion of the needs and requirements of these departments in preparation for the allocation of funds for projects.

W. German journalists tour Jordan to experience heritage before exhibit

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A group of West German journalists left Amman Sunday after a five-day visit, during which they toured the Kingdom to promote the Jordanian exhibition due to open in Cologne next month. The exhibition, entitled "The King's Highway: 9,000 Years of Art in the Kingdom of Jordan," will be inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Noor and West German First Lady, Mrs. Marianne von Weizsacker on Oct. 2.

The exhibition includes antiquities and artefacts, as well as a large sample of Mrs. Widat Kassar's traditional Palestinian and Jordanian dresses and accessories. The display also includes an archaeological collection which was exhibited in Paris last year.

The exhibition will be displayed for six months at the Rautenstrauch-Joes Museum, which lies on 1,000 square metres of land in Cologne. It will then tour other parts of Germany and Europe for two years.

Fifteen West German journalists from different newspapers were invited here by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Antiquities to give them an idea about Jordanian heritage before the opening of the exhibit.

The group toured Jerash, Madaba, Karak, Wadi Rum, Petra, Ajlun, and Ajlun.

The journalists interviewed by the Jordan Times expressed fascination with the Jordanian landscape, saying it was very impressive.

"I was emotionally moved (by the landscape)," said Horst Stein of Die Welt daily newspaper in Bonn. Mr. Stein said he has travelled to many parts of the world but he has never seen "such water as in Aqaba."

Another journalist remarked that one day in Petra and Wadi Rum is not enough. He said, "You need to stay at least two weeks in such a beautiful place."

He added that one of the reporters in the group stayed behind in Wadi Rum to enjoy its beauty for a while longer.

Referring to mass tourism in Jordan, Ms. Karin Bolenius, a public relations representative from the museum in Cologne, said that, though it might be economically valuable for the country, it would detract somewhat from the beauty of the historic monuments.

"From our experience of mass tourism in Europe, we see that it has only destroyed the beauty of these places, as in the tourist parts of Spain and Greece. The local people lose their identity, and they basically become only servants for the tourists," she told the Jordan Times.

Ms. Zahn also expressed her belief that it is very important that original and authentic handicrafts be maintained. "We appreciate the original patterns of traditional embroidery more than imitations. We have enough imitations in Europe. Traditional handicrafts, in general, must be encouraged in your country in order for it to last," Ms. Zahn said.

She added, "It was very enjoyable for us to sit on the floor in the tent in Petra, much more so than sitting on couches."

The German group had no negative criticism regarding their stay in the Kingdom, though some questioned the bedouin settlement if the government continues putting the bedouin into "concrete cube houses." The bedouin identity may be lost in ten years. In response to this expressed concern, Nayef Mutlag, the Jordanian press attaché in Bonn who accompanied the group in Jordan, said that, now, half of the bedouin settle in villages in order to put their children in schools and to be near medical services, and the other half keep travelling. "It is not easy for bedouin to change their way of life," Mr. Mutlag explained.

Because the German guests toured extensively for only five days, some of them stated their desire to return to Jordan for longer visits. Mr. Stein said that he only took a "whiff" of Jordan, but he added, "If you see something you like, then you bring your close friends and family back to see it with you again."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Hassan expresses condolences

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday called at the Adwan family residence, condoling them over the death of Sa'ud Nofan Al Adwan. Prince Hassan also visited the Al Fayez family and offered condolences to them over the death of Sheikh Thaher Diab Al Fayez. Also on Monday, Prince Hassan visited the Zaben family and expressed his sympathies to them over the death of Zuhaiman Al Zaben.

Crown Prince cables Bangladesh president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday sent a cable offering condolences to President of Bangladesh Mohammad Hussein Ershad. In his cable, Prince Hassan expressed deep regret over the death of Bangladeshis people, whose lives were lost during the recent floods which hit the country.

Rawabdeh attends talks in Cairo

AMMAN (Petra) — Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh on Monday left for Cairo on a several-day official visit for talks with Cairo Governor Youssef Abu Taleb, and a number of Egyptian officials, on boosting relations between the two capitals. During the visit, the two sides will also discuss issues related to conducting studies for the twinning of Amman and Cairo, and exchanging technical and scientific expertise.

Fewer work permits issued in 1986

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of work permits issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development's offices throughout the Kingdom dropped by 3.5 per cent last year, ministry sources said on Monday. The sources added that the various labour offices issued 97,885 work permits during the year 1986, compared with 101,484 permits issued in 1985. The sources attributed this decline to the ministry's measures aimed at curbing the number of imported labourers.

Ministry to study problems of valley area residents

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal, and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jaber on Monday stressed the importance of the Jordan Valley as a major source of agricultural products.

Addressing a meeting held at Deir Allah, Mr. Jaber said that integrated studies will be undertaken for each residential community in the Jordan Valley with a view to remedying problems facing the citizens and farmers. He added that the studies are also designed to preserve arable land and to prevent random construction on the land.

During the meeting attended by governors of Irbid and Balqa, the acting president of Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), and heads of the local councils, Mr. Jaber outlined the importance of cooperation among the municipalities, the ministry, and other concerned authorities.

JVA acting President Mohammad Bani Hani said that the government has spent some JD 260 million on development projects in the Jordan Valley area and called for adopting organisational plans as a scientific approach for preserving arable land.

With a limited number of Arab leaders attending, The Nov. 8 summit would be the second.

Syria boycotted the 1985 summit and Sheikh Sabah's inference was that Damascus would have to be coaxed materially into attending at Amman.

The Mideast Mirror said Sheikh Sabah was asked whether Kuwait supplied Syria with free crude oil to attend the Islamic summit in Kuwait, and was considering "such requests" from Syria.

It said Sheikh Sabah replied: "Correct. They asked us for some supplies, and we made them available because no matter what, we are all Arabs."

"True, there are other requests which we are studying. We haven't acceded to them as yet," he said.

In the interview, Sheikh Sabah also said that after encouraging Iran to align the Shi'ite Muslims in Lebanon under its own influence, Syria now finds itself "threatened" by the sectarian split between Sunnis and Shi'ites in that country.

Sheikh Sabah said 56 vessels sailing to or from Kuwait, including seven flying Kuwait's flag, had been attacked by Iran in the Gulf.

NAF spends over JD 1m in first half of 1987

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) spent JD 1,041,274, benefitting some 60,000 people during the first six months of this year, NAF Secretary Khalil Al Banna said Monday.

Mr. Banna added that, out of this amount, JD 961,955 were in the form of recurrent aid; JD 8,875 were in the form of emergency aid; JD 325, in the form of immediate relief aid; and some JD 60,144 were spent on rehabilitation programmes and income-generating projects for physically handicapped people.

UNRWA receives grant

AMMAN (Petra) — The West German government has made a donation of some US \$550,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) to improve the environmental conditions of Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan according to UNRWA sources.

Petrochemical products marketing workshop begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A workshop on the marketing of petrochemical products in the Arab World and their impact on future investments opens Tuesday at the Royal Scientific Society, with the participation of marketing directors and specialists from various petrochemical companies.

The workshop has been organised by the RSS in cooperation with the Arab Industrial Development Organisation (AIDO) and the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

The director of ESCWA's industry section, Kamel Jabbar, said that the workshop is aimed at specifying major marketing problems of Arab petrochemicals and fertilisers in local and foreign markets, and for arriving at solutions for these problems.

Agricultural council to ban importation of dry milk

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud on Monday said that the Higher Agricultural Council has taken a decision to ban the importation of powdered milk gradually. The decision, which is designed to overcome the problem of the surplus fresh milk, will be implemented in three years, Mr. Hmoud said.

During a tour of poultry farms and dairy production factories in the Sahab and Duleil areas, Mr. Hmoud said the government will, as a first step, restrict the importation of powdered milk to the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply, which will determine the quantities of milk to be imported, and will reduce such quantities gradually to allow for the fresh milk produced locally to take its place in the local markets.

Birzeit professor beaten up

(Continued from page 1)

Al Masri shot by a gunman from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

Two Palestinians who Israeli authorities say are linked to radical guerrilla groups are awaiting trial for plotting the murder of East Jerusalem newspaper editor Hanna Siniora, a pro-PLO moderate.

Two cars were set ablaze at Mr. Siniora's home earlier this year after he said he might lead the first list of Palestinian candidates to run for Jerusalem's city council.

Both the Likud bloc and the Labour Party oppose contacts with the PLO.

The daily Jerusalem Post quoted Mr. Nusseibeh as saying Mr. Amirav gave the "clear impression" Mr. Shamir knew about the contacts and hinted the prime minister was interested in meeting the three Palestinians himself.

U.S. leader hails arms pact

(Continued from page 1)

would continue to pursue the goal of arms reduction, particularly a 50 per cent cut in long-range strategic missiles.

But he said the U.S. strategic defence initiative (SDI) — the formal name for "Star Wars," had greatly enhanced the prospects for real arms reduction.

"It is a crucial part of our efforts to insure a safer world and a more stable strategic balance," he said.

Mr. Reagan said the superpowers continue to have their differences "and probably always will."

But he said: "We look forward to the time when things we now regard as sources of friction and even danger, can become examples of cooperation between ourselves and the Soviet Union."

Reagan: No choice but sanctions

(Continued from page 1)

"I think we have considerable support for such a resolution," Mr. Carlucci said.

The United States delayed pursuing an arms embargo Mr. Perez de Cuellar could embark on his peace mission to the two countries.

Last Friday, Washington said the mission had ended in failure. Asked about reports that the Soviet Union — one of five permanent members of the Security Council with veto power — wanted more negotiations before considering sanctions, Mr. Carlucci said he would not comment but was "more upbeat" about the Soviet position than those reports would suggest.

The Iranian news agency (IRNA) reported Monday President Khamenei left for New York to address the General Assembly and renew Iran's rejection of a Gulf war settlement until Iraq is branded "the aggressor."

The state-run agency said Mr. Khamenei was accompanied by a large delegation that included Mustafa Mir-Salim, a presidential adviser, Alireza Moayyeri, deputy

prime minister for political affairs, and several parliament members.

IRNA did not say if the group planned to make any stops en route to New York.

It said: "The Iranian delegation is expected to assert Iran's demand for identifying the aggressor in the Iran-Iraq war."

Mr. Khamenei is the first ranking Iranian official to travel to the United States since the overthrow of the Iranian monarchy in 1979, and the rise of the Islamic Revolution to power.

IRNA said that while in New York, Mr. Khamenei will meet with Mr. Perez de Cuellar on the Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire.

A confidential report submitted by the U.N. chief to the Security Council last week said Iran would accept an undeclared ceasefire with Iraq during an inquiry to name "the aggressor."

Jordan Times

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GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

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Timing is no coincidence

THE ARAB foreign ministers' decision to refer the Gulf conflict to an extraordinary Arab summit, rather than dealing with it directly as decided in their Aug. 23 meeting in Tunis, clearly reflects their assessment that the gravity of the situation in the Gulf and the repercussions of its recent developments call for the scrutiny and affirmative action by the Arab governments' leaders. Much water has passed under the bridge since the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in August, when it was decided that the Arab governments would give Iran a two-month grace period to accept or reject an official ceasefire in the Gulf as called for in United Nations Security Council Resolution 598. The decision to elevate the deliberations on the Gulf to a summit level is clearly indicative of the increasing importance with which the Arab governments view the Gulf war. Over and above the compounded complications in the Gulf crisis since its genesis, it could not have escaped the attention of the Arab foreign ministers the emergence of an accelerating détente between the superpowers, as exemplified by their most recent stunning agreement in principle to scrap short and intermediate range nuclear missiles from their arsenals. With détente between Washington and Moscow taking firmer root, the Arab World has all the more reason to be on guard and united, lest the currents of events and decision making on the international level pass them by with negative effects.

Therefore, it is not a coincidence that the time for the Arab summit was deliberately chosen close to the date when the Reagan-Gorbachev summit is due to take place. To achieve optimum effect on the leaders of the two superpowers, the Arab heads of state will convene in their extraordinary summit on the propitious date of Nov. 8, in order to ensure that the superpowers will hear their words loudly and clearly. But, obviously, this could not be the whole story behind the choice of date for the Arab summit. In the words of Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, the Arab foreign ministers had decided not to take action against Iran for the present. This decision to delay the application of the anticipated sanctions against Iran for its refusal to abide by the ceasefire resolution as an indivisible whole is in deference to the on-going negotiations conducted by the U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar with the immediate parties to the conflict, in addition to his consultations with the members of the Security Council. But, this additional grace period accorded to Iran must not be construed by Iran as tantamount to Arab wavering on the issue of the Gulf war nor as a weakening of their resolve to apply sanctions against Iran should it continue to procrastinate on its decision regarding the ceasefire resolution by playing a semantic game.

The Arab World should cling to its initial determination that the Khomenei regime is first and foremost playing for time and that it has not relinquished its lust for control and hegemony in the Gulf. The credibility and prestige of the forthcoming Amman summit will be on the line should it fail to arrive at an effective consensus on how to proceed in dealing with the war of aggression against Iraq. The selection of Amman as the venue for the approaching special summit reflects the mood of the Arab World, in favour of positive and affirmative collective Arab action, and suggests that reasonableness and common sense should henceforth guide the course of events in the Arab World. One will surely sigh with relief if the Arab World does not, after all, shy away from responsibility and the dictates of true Arab nationalism.

ARAB PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Credit for Jordan's efforts

THE Arab League's decision to hold an urgent summit meeting in Amman in November boosts Jordan's stand and endeavours in trying to unite Arab ranks and end differences among Arab leaders. Over the past decade forces hostile to our Arab Nation have been striving to isolate individual Arab states and render them separate and apart from one another. We were afraid that these hostile forces would be able to achieve their goals. But the Arab countries and their peoples and leaders now seem to have overcome the obstacles and opted for joint action, something which re-establishes self-confidence in the Arab Nation. This decision reaffirms the capability of the Arab Nation to re-unite its ranks in the face of common threats and challenges. The Arab League's decision to hold the summit in Amman means that all Arab countries now realise the dangers inherent in the on-going Gulf conflict, and the dangers that are posed to the Arab World because of this conflict. All Arab countries now realise that this war should stop so that all efforts can be pooled in the face of the Israeli threat. The Arab summit is needed now so that a joint Arab stand can be taken and be conveyed to the superpower summit which will discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict, among other world issues.

Al Dustour: League's triumph

THE Arab League Summit passed one of its most important resolutions by calling for an Arab summit to be held in Amman in November. This decision is a good cause for optimism and welcome throughout the Arab World, because the Arab heads of state will be able to stamp the on-going Gulf war and its repercussions and negative impact on the Arab Nation as a whole. A summit is also needed to pool the resources of the Arab World for confronting the Israeli enemy that has been occupying our Arab land for many years. This decision, which took so long to materialise, can be regarded as a triumph for the Arab League since it will open the door wide for the leaders of the nation to chart plans for its unity and for joint action. We look with optimism in this decision and consider it as a positive indication that the Arabs will now open a new chapter in their relations, ending differences and breathing life once again in the body of the Arab Nation which was near collapse. Choosing Amman as the site for the summit is a credit for Jordan and a reward for its efforts over the past months to bring the views of various Arab leaders closer together and bridge the gaps and narrow differences among them.

Sawt Al Shaab: Forum for decisive action

AMMAN will be honoured to host the Arab summit meeting in November during this most crucial moment of Arab history in the face of critical circumstances. The decision to hold the summit crowned the efforts of many Arab leaders whose concern was to unify Arab ranks in the face of common threats posed against the Arab Nation. An Arab summit which the Arabs have been seeking to hold will have the key for solutions of many problems plaguing our nation. Jordan under King Hussein has been spearheading efforts to bring a concerted and unified Arab action for the sake of safeguarding Arab interests. Therefore, the Arab countries' decision to have the summit in Amman manifests their support of Jordan's role and backs the King's endeavours to bring an end to the differences among their leaders. The coming summit is a guarantee for solidarity among Arab countries and is the right forum for the Arab leaders to chart plans for confronting Iran's aggression on Arab soil and end the Israeli occupation of Arab land.

The Lebanon war wounds that won't heal

By Peretz Kidron

THE LEBANON war continues to haunt the Israeli political scene, as controversy repeatedly flares up about political accountability for the campaign. Everyone concerned is anxious to pass the buck for a war which commenced in triumphant euphoria but ultimately became extremely unpopular. Eager to seek an alibi, ministers who officiated in the Begin cabinet in 1982 have diligently fostered the myth that the entire undertaking was somehow engineered almost exclusively by the then defence minister, Ariel Sharon. The story they put out is that Sharon sucked the government into an operation far more extensive and ambitious than initially authorised, hoodwinking his fellow ministers by systematically withholding information about the battlefield demarches he planned.

After a prolonged silence on the subject, Sharon recently hit back at the periphery of his erstwhile colleagues. In a lecture on the war delivered at Tel Aviv University, quoted extensively from cabinet minutes and the records of the general staff to prove that Israel's political lead-

ers were privy to the overall strategy of the campaign, and that each consecutive step received prior cabinet approval. While persisting in sturdy vindication of the Lebanon adventure, Sharon implicitly added a subliminal warning. Insofar as there were errors or miscalculations, the blame falls equally upon all members of the Begin cabinet, and any attempt by Likud rivals to use his role in the war as political card against him would evoke a fierce response.

While Sharon's disclosures were principally directed against his colleagues and rivals in the Likud leadership, similarly damaging revelations have recently highlighted the discreditable role of the Labour Party which was in opposition at the outset of the Lebanon war. The impeccable source is prominent dove, Yossi Sarid, now an opposition Knesset member for the Citizens' Rights Movement, but at the time of the 1982 invasion a prominent figure in the Labour leadership and privy to its inner deliberations. In a detailed article in *Ha'aretz*, Sarid demolishes the parallel myth that Begin government confronted

Labour with *faits accomplis*, or that the party knew nothing of Sharon's intention of sending the troops far beyond the purported 40-kilometre limit. In effect, Sarid accuses the Labour leaders of a blend of ingenuousness and cynical opportunism with regard to a war from which they subsequently endeavoured to distance themselves.

On the third day of the invasion, when the Communists tabled a no-confidence motion and Labour's Knesset faction voted overwhelmingly with the government, Sarid accuses the party's leaders of being fully aware that the Israeli army had already far exceeded the 40-kilometre limit they pretended to believe in. Indeed, in an internal consultation held on the eve of the invasion, Peres specifically informed his Labour colleagues that the campaign's objective was Beirut. According to Sarid, the ensuing deliberations highlighted wide divergences in the views of Labour leaders: Peres urged opposition to the invasion, whereas former Commander-in-Chief Gior advocated the party's active participation in its conduct (as he later claimed, so as to take

it out of Sharoo's hands). Labour's "if you don't beat 'em, join 'em" attitude was best exemplified by Yitzhak Rabin. Rabin — likewise a former commander-in-chief — argued that the campaign was now a fact, adding that "anyone with good advice to give has no right to withhold it." Sarid recalls that Rabin's "pragmatic" approach ultimately led him to join Sharon on a hilltop overlooking Beirut from which vantage point he proffered advice to the defence minister on how to tighten the siege of the city by cutting off water supplies and stepping up bombardments.

The cynical political motivation behind Labour's "patriotic" support for a war its leaders privately criticised was well expressed by Haim Barlev, yet another commander-in-chief. Sarid quotes the then Labour party secretary Barlev as warning: "The people will not forgive us if we do not support the war when it is at its height." Labour's opportunism is equally well illustrated by the zigzags characterising Peres' views. Ten days after the commencement of the campaign, Peres, who had initially advocated opposition to it, addressed

his colleagues in the leadership in the following terms: "They (the government) hold all the trumps. The Americans are supporting them and cooperating, the Russians have simply vanished... The war is a great success. It is close to gaining most of its principal objectives. In a few days... a peace treaty will be signed between Israel and Lebanon." Addressing the party's doves who were becoming progressively strident in their criticism of the campaign, Peres went on: "Whoever wishes to persist in his opposition to the war (will) make a laughing stock of himself." He implored the doves to cease their anti-war declarations which he said could no longer be tolerated.

A few months later, after the Sabra and Shatila massacres, as Israeli public opinion began progressively shedding its illusions about the "triumphant" campaign, Peres and the rest of the Labour leadership again turned with the tide. In the course of time, Labour became increasingly open in its reservations about the war, and the 1984 election found the party voicing sharp criticism. It goes without saying that, then and now, Labour leaders get very

embarrassed when reminded of their initial enthusiasm for the invasion.

Sarid's revelations go far beyond setting the historical record straight. A debate which may appear at first glance as so much water under the bridge is in fact a potential powder keg. The forthcoming elections, now a year away at most could plunge both major parties into internal leadership contests. For Labour, no less than the Likud, responsibility for the war may become a political liability. Whether it is Ariel Sharon building up his power base for the showdown over succession to the Likud's ageing Yitzhak Shamir, or Peres and Rabin trying to fight off growing challenges from Labour's increasingly restive younger leaders, those directly involved are not particularly eager to take responsibility for the Lebanese fiasco. For that very reason, their rivals have much to gain from highlighting it, and this conflict of interests in high places could well give rise to a series of mutually embarrassing revelations, thereby incidentally casting light into some very murky corners of Israel's military-political establishment — Middle East International, London.

Former Georgian police chief now key actor on world stage

By Robert Evans

Reuters

WASHINGTON — Eduard Shevardnadze leaned back in his chair and grinned mischievously at the roomful of U.S. journalists before him.

"I hope you influential people will be able to bring pressure on the Pentagon to be reasonable," he said with a sly sideways wink at a laughing aide.

Minutes later he fielded a hostile question on human rights in the Soviet Union without a blink.

"Like you, we have our bureaucrats, and many of them have yet to learn that times have changed," was his response.

The scene was the Soviet embassy in Washington as the former Georgian police chief basked in the diplomatic triumph of an epoch-making disarmament deal with the United States.

In two years as Soviet foreign minister, the 59-year-old Shevardnadze has quickly learned new diplomatic and public relations skills to emerge as a major actor on the world stage.

Having won his Kremlin spurs by battling the well-entrenched black market mafia of his native Transcaucasian Republic, he seemed in 1985 an unlikely figure to spearhead new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's international charm offensive.

Speaking with a thick typically Georgian accent that hardens Russian's soft vowels and consonants, he was scarcely known north of the Caucasus.

But he has, in the view of experienced Western diplomats, firmly established himself as an expert yet flexible negotiator with a deep knowledge of complicated world issues.

His tall, elegantly-clothed figure, sweeping forehead and shock of white hair make him an easily-recognised figure at the United Nations in New York, where he addresses the General Assembly this week, and in the dozens of world capitals he has already visited.

The contrast with his predecessor Andrei Gromyko, the Krem-



Eduard Shevardnadze

lin's foreign policy overlord for three decades, could hardly be more striking.

Gromyko, not too affectionately dubbed "grim grim" by foreign diplomats in Moscow and clearly the terror of his staff, had a dry sense of humour but he rarely displayed it.

Despite long exposure to the ways of the West, Gromyko paid little attention to the press and when he talked he preferred to lecture.

Last week, as he emerged from intensive negotiating sessions with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at the State Department in Washington, Shevardnadze happily stopped to talk to reporters.

And although always urged by aides to hurry on to his next appointment, he ignored no question, on two occasions stepping back to the microphones when he had already been heading for the door.

At the embassy, his spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov sought to break up the minister's news conference after an hour. "I think the journalists are tired," said Gerasimov.

"But I'm not tired," shot back Shevardnadze. "Let's have a last question."

When he was appointed to replace Gromyko in July 1985, the Moscow rumour mill promp-

ly declared him an interim minister.

Long-time ambassador to the United States Anatoly Dobrynin, brought back to Moscow at the same time to the international department of the Communist Party's central committee apparatus, was likely to be the de facto minister, the conventional wisdom then ran.

Even a year later, Shevardnadze was rumoured preparing to switch to head the committee of state security or KGB as part of an overall Kremlin reshuffle.

"But even if he wanted to move Shevardnadze now, which I doubt, Gorbachev would find it difficult to replace him," said one senior Moscow ambassador on the eve of last week's talks.

There is little doubt that behind the twinkling southern good nature, typical for most Georgians, there is a hard core.

Shevardnadze came up through the republic's young Communist League and its police apparatus to become Georgia's minister of internal affairs with the rank of general in 1968.

In 1972, he was appointed the republic's party chief on the removal of the corrupt Vasily Mzhavanadze.

Although in his 13 years in the post he failed to root out the mafia-style black-marketeering widespread in Georgia, Shevardnadze is widely credited there as having made a creditable effort and as having remained himself a "Mr. Clean."

Some local admirers in Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, speak of his readiness to intervene personally in difficult situations in the sometimes unruly republic.

On one occasion, he is said to have himself gone onto the field to appeal for order as fans rioted after the local soccer side Tbilisi Dynamo had lost a home game.

On another, these accounts go, he faced thousands of angry demonstrators protesting at what they saw as a demolition of the Georgian language at the expense of Russian in the republic, on the streets of Tbilisi and persuaded them to disperse.

Turmoil in Philippines brings Communist revolution forward

By Greg Hutchinson

Reuters

MANILA — Guerrillas fighting an 18-year-old insurgency believe deep divisions in the military could lead to a Communist-dominated Philippines by the turn of the century.

Communist rebels have doubled their attacks on the military and predict a massive growth in support as President Corazon Aquino's government struggles from one crisis to the next.

"We're confident things will change before the end of the century. The political situation is such that we can expect massive growth in the NDF," a senior official of the underground National Democratic Front (NDF), who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

Rebels have stepped up their attacks on army posts and non-military targets, such as municipal halls and bridges, since the August 28 coup attempt which left 53 people dead and more than 300 wounded and an army which by its own admission is severely fragmented.

"When the coup exploded and the divisions in the army were laid bare it was a good point to advance the guerrilla war. Any military tactician would recognise that as a good opportunity," Satur Ocampo, a senior officer of the NDF, told reporters in a guerrilla camp.

On average, about 10 people die each day in insurgency-related violence, although the military says this figure has soared in recent weeks.

The result has been a new confidence for the rebels and hints that for the first time they may go outside the Philippines for support.

In separate interviews at the weekend, Ocampo gave a fully-fledged news conference at a hideout in the Sierra Madre mountains and other senior officials met openly with a reporter in a Manila restaurant.

The unnamed official said the rebels were ready to export the lessons of their home-grown re-



Corazon Aquino

volution to foreign revolutionaries in exchange for sophisticated anti-aircraft and anti-tank weapons. They currently arm themselves virtually exclusively with weapons captured from the government.

He said the NDF was governing whole villages and towns, providing services such as education, health, water and land through its own agrarian reform scheme.

The government has acknowledged that the rebels have left them with no control in eight per cent of the country and little influence over 20 per cent.

But the NDF official said the military's estimate of 23,000 New People's Army guerrillas was a myth.

"The army boasts our strength because it wants increased spending. The figures are not important. It's a people's war. We rely on the strength of people's movements," he said.

The NDF, an umbrella coalition of 12 underground organisations led by the Communist party and its military wing the New People's Army, had a membership of five million and a mass support of 10 million in 1985, the official said.

He refused to give current figures. He said growth had recently begun to pick up after being stagnant since Aquino took power 18 months ago, partly because of her popular aura.

He denied what another rebel source said was a serious division emerging in the Communist Party over tactics that might eventually split it into two.

It had not made them alter their basic Maoist strategy of mobilising peasants to overthrow land owners and for guerrillas to encircle the cities.

He predicted demoralisation within the ranks of the armed forces would lead to soldiers, especially those with poor peasant backgrounds, deserting to the New People's Army.

Officials say their expectation of domination by the year 2000 is not just talk.

But they concede their timetable could be altered if the United States sent in troops to prop up the embattled Aquino or those who succeed her.

"In that event it would take longer. Such intervention can be prevented by a diplomatic offensive and the development of a strong anti-war movement in the United States," he said.

Elections reflect shift to right across Socialist Scandinavia

By Arthur Max

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — A mood of political discontent is spreading across Scandinavia, an area which has been a laboratory of social experiment for half a century.

Judging by recent elections, voters are turning away from the old parties which reformed Socialism into the Nordic model of the welfare state.

The causes are obscure. Experts say it could be a backlash against years of high taxation, resentment against immigrants and refugees, or simply a weariness of an uninspired generation of political leaders.

"There is dissatisfaction with all the established parties," said political science professor Evert Vedung of Sweden's Uppsala University.

"The mood of the 1980s is for deregulation and lower taxes," although there is no support for dismantling the system of birth-to-death welfare. Vedung said in an interview.

Conservative parties offer no alternative, he said, so radical parties provide the new refuge for a growing protest vote. The result is upsetting delicate political balances.

In Norway, the anti-tax, anti-immigration Progress Party made stunning gains in voting Sept. 14 for municipal and regional councils. It more than dou-

bled its support to garner 12.2 per cent of the vote, emerging as the nation's third largest party and handing Labour Party Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland a blow to her prestige.

A Sept. 8 general election in Denmark showed a drift to both extremes. A right-wing party also called the Progress Party increased its seats in the 179-member parliament from six to nine. An extreme left-wing party gained six seats to win 27. The prime minister Poul Schluter of his working majority and cast doubt on how effectively he can now govern.

Following an election last March a Conservative, Harri Holkeri, leads the Finnish government for the first time since World War II. Finland, living in the shadow of the Soviet Union, is more cautious in its politics and is careful not to arouse Soviet ire.

Sweden also faces uncertainty as it heads towards elections next year. Opinion polls predict substantial gains for the Environmentalist Party which could threaten Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson's Socialist majority.

To the disaffected voter, the distinctions are blurred between right and left in the establishment. Conservatives have governed in all four countries, in many cases increasing taxes and expanding welfare programmes.

The political spectrum "now appears as one big gray mass..."

which makes it meaningless to talk about Socialist and non-Socialist parties," wrote the independent Norwegian daily *Dagbladet*.

In each country, the Socialist Party remains the largest. But the Socialists have lost control of the governments in Denmark and

Finland and are in trouble elsewhere.

Mrs. Brundtland's minority government in Norway survives by the grace of the opposition's disunity. Sweden's Carlsson, a Social Democrat, needs help from the Communists to barely outnumber his non-Socialist



opposition in parliament.

The rise of Norwegian and Danish Progress parties has raised fundamental questions. Both challenge the precepts that underpin the welfare state, calling for sharp tax reductions, less bureaucracy and reduced public spending.

"We may be forced to revise our attitude and everything we have learned about Norwegian politics," wrote the Bergen *Tidende* newspaper in Norway.

Though the system varies from one country to the next, everyone in Scandinavia is entitled to free health services and education, subsidised child care and generous retirement plans.

Many workers also have five-week vacations and some get government-paid exits for restaurant lunches. Unemployment benefits also are high.

But the welfare state is fuelled by the highest taxes in Europe. Verduin, the Swedish professor, said that while the right-wing parties appeal for tax reductions "they want to keep the services. They are not all consistent."

In Sweden, tax in the highest wage bracket is 78 per cent. The tax level became a national scandal a few years ago when a popular author complained that her combined income tax and social service assessment to more than 100 per cent of her earnings from her latest book.

Mogens Glistrup, the 61-year-

old Danish Progress leader, took his anti-tax crusade seriously. He was convicted of large-scale tax fraud and spent three years in prison. He was released in 1985.

In the latest campaign, Glistrup was accused of violating Denmark's anti-racism laws for saying on radio that refugees "multiply like rats."

But his anti-immigrant stance has found a wide audience in a country where unemployment is 80 per cent and climbing. Denmark has 128,000 immigrants, including 6,386 people who were granted political asylum last year.

Glistrup, who formed his party in 1972, first won attention when he argued that Denmark should dismantle its armed forces and install an answering machine at the defence ministry saying "we surrender."

Norway's Progress Party leader Carl I. Hagan, 43, is a more conventional politician. A British-educated former marketing manager for a London sugar company, Hagan has been compared with U.S. President Ronald Reagan as Norway's "great communicator."

Hagan has held the pivotal two-seat balance between Socialists and non-Socialists since the 1985 election, and has played an unpredictable role.

In May 1986 he abandoned the conservative camp and brought down the government when Prime Minister Kaare Willoch sought to raise a gasoline tax.



The Sphinx and the pyramids will provide the backdrop for Aida production.

Sphinx is backdrop for new gala Aida production

By John Rogers

GIZA, Egypt — With the Sphinx and the Giza pyramids as a dramatic backdrop, international opera stars are preparing for Egypt's second gala open-air production of Giuseppe Verdi's Aida this year.

The promoters reckon they have learned the lessons of last May's path-breaking presentation of the opera in its original setting, the 3,200-year-old pharaonic Temple of Luxor on the River Nile in southern Egypt.

"We have developed a lot of things to clean up the mistakes of Luxor," said Hassan Yabha, chairman of the group of Egyptian travel agencies backing the nine million pound (\$4 million) production.

When the eight-night run premieres next Monday night, the Italian orchestra and singers will be aided by a sound system developed after complaints at Luxor

that the music was sometimes hard to hear.

Soloists and chorus will use throat-microphones to amplify voices geared to projection inside acoustically-perfect opera houses rather than in the desert on the outskirts of Cairo.

Yabha says another advantage over the Luxor production — put on by a different impresario — is consistent casting. He claims tenor Placido Domingo overshadowed fellow soloists of lesser stature last May.

Next week's performances on a huge wooden stage in front of the Sphinx, the 5,000-year-old monument with a lion's body and a human face, feature no one of Domingo's superstar status.

But the cast includes first-rank singers such as Grace Bumbry, Katia Ricciarelli, Giuseppe Giacomini and Giustino Diaz. "They are all on one level. We didn't want to have top and lower levels," Yabha told Reuters.

In addition, the chairs will be more comfortable and the tickets, at \$175 to 400 a seat, cheaper than in Luxor, where prices ranged from \$350 to 750.

On the other hand, Luxor was a "first" and had glitzy, attracting international jet-setters and a few celebrities.

It remains to be seen whether the Sphinx performances have the same drawing power.

Yabha says 50 per cent of seats in the 4,500-seat open-air theatre have been sold for the first night, with other nights at present booked between 30 and 35 per cent.

Egyptians, who cannot acquire hard currency easily, can buy tickets in Egyptian pounds for less — a maximum of 200 pounds (about \$135) — under a trade-off with the government.

In return, soldiers are helping build the auditorium and performing in the spectacular military crowd-scenes of the opera.

Equipment has been eased through customs and other official facilities have been provided for a production which, like the Luxor version, should give Egypt's tourism industry a boost.

Local authorities will water the desert to keep down throat-tickling dust, stray dogs are being killed and camels, a popular ride for tourists at the pyramids, will be barred from the area before shows.

The opera is being staged by a 45-strong troupe from the Teatro Petruzzelli company of Bari, southern Italy, directed by Mauro Bolognini, under the baton of Carlo Franci.

It will be Francis's 200th Aida, according to Yabha. The last time he did the opera in Egypt was in 1970 in the Cairo Opera house, which was later burned down.

Psychology discovers shame, a master emotion

By Daniel Goleman

NEW YORK — Psychologists are belatedly focusing on shame, a prevalent and powerful emotion that has somehow escaped rigorous scientific examination until now.

Everybody experiences shame, but part of the reason it has been so elusive, in psychological terms, is that it has been shadowed by the study of guilt. It also is difficult to measure and harder to bring into the open than many other emotions that researchers study with ease.

Shame is emerging as a "master-emotion" that influences all the others. Its development is being traced back through childhood and its role in a wide range of human experience, from spurring the greatest of accomplishments to the most bitter of marital fights, is newly appreciated.

Much of the discomfort people feel in personal relationships may derive from shame, experts say. Some kinds of violence may be rooted in it, others say. And according to some, the way shame is handled in psychotherapy may determine the length and effectiveness of treatment.

"Shame is a master emotion, regulating the expression of other feelings," said Thomas Scheff, a sociologist at the University of California at Santa Barbara, who presented a paper on shame at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in Chicago last month. "Whenever shame enters the picture, we inhibit the free expression of emotion, with the exception of anger."

Mr. Scheff, who studies the sociology of emotions.

Unlike other emotions, which tend to pass with time or with a catharsis such as weeping, "shame is the emotion most difficult to admit and to discharge," Mr. Scheff said.

Also, shame is the most private of emotions. "Shame may be one of the only emotions for which no facial expression has evolved," said Dr. Paul Ekman, a psychologist at the University of California at San Francisco who is an expert on facial expression. "Turning away or hiding the face in some way are the only objective signs of shame."

Researchers are beginning to use these indirect signs of shame in observational studies of infants and small children, to study how and when shame emerges in development.

Guilt usually refers to feelings about an act, a transgression real or imagined. It does not necessarily bring with it self-loathing, as shame does. Shame goes to one's basic sense of self and is most often experienced as embarrassment or humiliation. Shame is in many instances a normal enough feeling but it becomes emotionally dangerous when it starts to colour one's most basic idea about who one is, or how worthy one is.

Normal shame might result from seeing a dark secret — a not terribly honourable motive for helping a friend, for instance — slip out. But pathological shame would be when that same feeling arises with every rebuke or small failure, or as a subtext in all one's

relationships because of some presumed character flaw such as a constant feeling of dependence.

Feelings of shame begin to emerge in the second year of life, at the very formation of an infant's sense of self, developmental psychologists say. As the infant realizes that he is a separate person, he is first able to understand that others are directing emotional messages to him. Pride and shame appear — pride in pleasing others and shame in displeasing them.

Psychologists trace an extreme sense of shame to an early childhood in which parents did not respond with empathy and attention to the child's feelings and show his competence. Because the child feels that his efforts do not matter to the parents, he grows up feeling inferior and unlovable.

In studies of violent men under treatment at the Brentwood Veterans Administration Hospital in Los Angeles, Melvin Lasky, the psychiatrist in charge, found that shame played a key role in family violence among patients there.

Most of the violent men, Mr. Lasky found, had psychological vulnerabilities — a history of psychosis or minor brain damage, for instance — that made them especially dependent on their wives to function well. Without their wives' help, they believed, they would be overwhelmed and disorganized. At the same time, the men were ashamed that they were so dependent.

"When marital partners are sharing as a weapon, their fights

escalate dramatically," Mr. Scheff said.

A sense of shame and self-loathing drives some people to build an inflated self-image through the pursuit of fame and excessive amounts of money. They hope to convince themselves of their worth and lovability through their accomplishments.

Entire families can share feelings of shame over such events as divorce or bankruptcy, or such problems as an alcoholic parent.

The sense of shame can persist across generations, according to Marilyn Mason, a family therapist at the University of Minnesota Medical School who is co-author of "Facing Shame: Families in Recovery," published by W.W. Norton.

The family's implicit rule becomes not to talk about painful life experiences of all kinds," said Ms. Mason. "The sense of shame leads them to become emotionally controlled and to set demanding standards for themselves."

The single most effective antidote to shame, some studies suggest, is a person's laughter at himself — and observation made by Freud. In research by Suzanne Bettzinger, a student of Mr. Scheff, those people who were able to laugh at their own accounts of feeling humiliated and resentful had an immediate drop in their feelings of shame.

Feelings of shame also can be alleviated if the person can acknowledge them openly to others and feels respected instead of judged by him — New York Times.

Small talk: 6 dots in Europe try to put things in perspective

By Barry James

ANDORRA LA VELLA. Andorra — Six countries that loom modestly on the map of Europe are meeting in Andorra this week to examine the proposition that small really is beautiful.

Once much of Europe was like them — city-states, fiefdoms, principalities and dukedoms. Four that survived — Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco and San Marino — are historical accidents, harmless anachronisms in a world of big-power politics. In the first meeting of its kind, these four ill-fated states were joined in Andorra by two relative superpowers, Luxembourg and Malta, for a week of discussions about the virtues and problems of being tiny.

Raffaella Giardi, secretary of state for finances and planning in the Republic of San Marino, population 24,000, spelled out the pluses and minuses. "A small country is permitted to use its resources without having to think of preparing for war," he said. "On the other hand, with such a small population, the problem is finding the resources in the first place."

The combined populations of the four smallest nations would just about fill a medium-sized European city. This, according to their delegates, gives them a human scale that eludes bigger countries with distant, faceless administrations.

"It is much easier for the ordinary person to influence politics," said Benno Beck, head of the national economic department of the Principality of Liechtenstein, population 27,000.

Mr. Giardi said being finance minister in a country where he knew half the people had its advantages and disadvantages. Fellow citizens have no hesitation about coming up to him in the street and telling him what they think of his policies, he said. That can be refreshing, he said, but troublesome, too, if he has just been obliged to do something unpopular.

"People really are happier in a small country," said Luis Mallart, an adviser to Andorra's council of education and culture, which organised the meeting this week. "You have a special relationship with your neighbours. And it is agreeable to be able to discuss affairs with a minister in the street."

Joseph Pintat Solans, the head of Andorra's government, managed to meet a sizable proportion of the population when he attended mass at the shrine of the Virgin of Meritxell to mark the national holiday, which celebrates the country's existence as a semi-independent entity since



1278. Andorra, high in the eastern Pyrenees, is jointly ruled by the president of France and the bishop of Urgel in Spain. It has a population of 47,000, of whom fewer than 8,000 are native Andorrans.

As people held hands and danced in a circle to the squealing music of a Sardinian band after the mass, Mr. Pintat chatted with ruddy-faced mountain folk, stiffly dressed in their Sunday best, and shopkeepers taking a brief respite from the hordes of shoppers seeking duty-free bargains in the narrow streets of Andorra La Vella.

"Being a citizen of a small country is like being part of a large family," said Joseph Cassar, a delegate from Malta, which is smaller than Andorra — 315 square kilometres (120 square miles) compared with 467 square kilometres for Andorra — but which packs in a population of more than 332,000.

"You know everybody," Mr. Cassar said, "so you can get things done. But you can have some terrible feuds as well."

One thing that is impressive about the mini-nations is their diversity — cultural, ethnic and historical. If they have one thing in common, Mr. Mallart said, it is their vulnerability to pressure by more powerful neighbours and economic circumstances.

Only the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, a minor military power with an army of 400 men, a population of 369,500 and a relatively large territory of 2,586 square kilometres, has found a degree of security and political clout through its membership in the European Community and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. "We are always used to being the smallest," said the wife of one of the Luxembourg delegates. "It's a strange feeling to be the biggest."

Vatican City, which has a resident population of fewer than 400 and which was not represented at the meeting, has a secure identity the words "mobile delicatessen" in large black letters. But 45-year-old Nawa caters strictly for the gourmets and gluttons of love.

He treats what he calls "social diseases," ranging from venereal diseases to impotence and barrenness, using medicines made from roots, herbs and bark. He also provides love-potions, aphrodisiacs and contraceptives, all from natural ingredients.

"I'm a herbalist and I call this 'the bedroom' because it's where I combine all the social problems into one," Nawa said in his surgery, which contains a low

and a steady income as the centre of world Roman Catholicism.

But the other mini-nations have to take someone bigger into account and get by on their wits.

Malta lives in uneasy proximity to the government of Colonel Muammar Qadhafi in Libya. Liechtenstein depends on Switzerland for its defence, foreign affairs, transportation and telecommunications. Andorra has historically kept its autonomy by playing France against Spain and by being unstrategically placed at the top of an inaccessible mountain range.

The principality of Monaco, with about 28,000 people packed into 1.81 square kilometres, affirms its independence under Prince Rainier 3rd but tends to be regarded by France as an eccentric municipality on the Cote d'Azur. San Marino claims to be the world's oldest republic as well as the smallest, with only 60,57 square kilometres of territory and 23,000 inhabitants.

Once, much of Italy was divided into city-states like San Marino. Being poor, isolated and difficult to invade on top of their fortified mountain in the Apennines, the San Marinese managed to avoid the attention of invading armies by keeping order at home and staying out of other peoples' disputes.

Today, San Marino has official relations with more than 50 countries, including China and the Soviet Union.

"In a world in which power, arms and the supremacy of force determine the lives of people, the experience of the small countries is more important than ever," said Antonietta Bonelli, director of San Marino's department of foreign relations. "We have shown that even with less territory and no weapons, you can live happily."

As in the past, San Marino's survival depends on harmonious relations with Italy, which surrounds it. In the 1950s, when the tiny republic elected a Commu-

nist government and opened a casino, Italy sent a squad of carabinieri to blockade its 31-kilometre-long frontier with San Marino. More recently, because of its open frontiers with Italy, San Marino has had to take on some of the tax and other obligations of the European Community without getting many of the benefits of membership, Mr. Giardi said.

Andorra, too, is concerned about its relations with the 12-member community now that Spain has joined. Its prosperity is based in a large measure on selling duty-free goods to visitors from France and Spain.

Most of the 12 million people who visited Andorra last year were from the neighbouring countries. They take home things like cheese and dairy products — the products are shipped to Andorra with the aid of EC export subsidies and are therefore legally supposed to be consumed within the country — as well as luxury goods, cigarettes, liquor and electronic equipment. If the community decided to choke off that trade, Andorra's economy would be ruined.

Like San Marino, Andorra has found an economic salvation in tourism, but this raises the question of preserving national identity. Last year, about three million tourists travelled the 20 kilometres from Rimini to San Marino to return laden with pottery and trinkets, most of it mass-produced elsewhere. "I sometimes wonder whether we will have to turn the whole place into a parking lot," Mr. Giardi said.

Liechtenstein owes its wealth partly to its status as a tax haven for thousands of foreign companies that have put up business in Vaduz, the capital, partly to tourism and partly to the development of light industry, such as the manufacture of teeth.

Prince Franz Josef 2nd, the last of the Habsburg monarchs, has reigned since 1938. The prince, 82, has turned over the day-to-day running of the country to his son. Liechtenstein has no army, 50 policemen and one ambassador, who is based in Bern.

Etienne Franz, the delegate from Monaco, was embarrassed about the charms of his law unto the wealthy.

Apart from a situation in which many of the 3,000 native Monaco residents find it hard to earn their place, is there anything wrong with life in there? "Honestly, Mr. Franz said, "I can't think of a single one. The price is just everybody wants to go and live there." — International Herald Tribune.

Zambian herbalist treats sexual problems

By Pascal Fletcher

Reuters

LUSAKA — In love? Looking for the right partner? Heading for divorce? Suffering from impotence or something worse?

Take your problems to "the bedroom," Lusaka residents will tell you.

The bedroom, a small, battered, blue, green and white-painted caravan parked in downtown Lusaka, is where Alfred Nawa, a traditional herbalist or nanga, holds his day surgery.

The back of the caravan, which faces onto an open carpark, bears

the words "mobile delicatessen" in large black letters. But 45-year-old Nawa caters strictly for the gourmets and gluttons of love.

He treats what he calls "social diseases," ranging from venereal diseases to impotence and barrenness, using medicines made from roots, herbs and bark. He also provides love-potions, aphrodisiacs and contraceptives, all from natural ingredients.

"I'm a herbalist and I call this 'the bedroom' because it's where I combine all the social problems into one," Nawa said in his surgery, which contains a low

bed, a bandbox and a rack of jam-jars holding a variety of ground herbs and roots.

Sticks and pieces of root and bark are piled in one corner. "I collect and dig them all myself," he says.

Nawa proudly shows an official permit allowing him to practise in the Lusaka area as a herbalist on the condition that he does not contravene Zambia's dangerous drugs laws or the witchcraft act, which bans certain kinds of witchcraft.

"None of what I do is witchcraft, it's all straightforward," he said.

"This is for venereal disease," he says holding up a jar-jar of coarse brown powder made from a root called musakakakaka. He guarantees a cure in two or three days and says it works as a remedy for barrenness.

For impotence, Nawa prescribes a bark and root called mutoto. His recommended contraceptive is a herbal fibre known as chileshi which is tied around the waist of the woman.

The remedy for men and women seeking a marriage partner is a bark called uputu. "You smoke it and call the name of the person you want," Nawa said.

Pope lays down law, but Americans answer back

By Philip Pallotta

Reuters

DETROIT — Pope John Paul talked tough to American Catholics on his nine-day U.S. tour, warning them they could not bend church rules to suit themselves.

Undaunted, they talked back. Seldom has a Pope spoken so bluntly to his flock and seldom has the flock spoken back so clearly.

From Miami to Phoenix and San Francisco to Detroit, the Pope ceded nothing to progressive Catholics on issues such as birth control, divorce, homosexuality, and the role of women in the church.

On several occasions the Pope flayed rejected America's so-called "pick and choose church" — a widely-held notion that a person can remain a good Catholic while ignoring teachings on moral and sexual issues.

His toughest and most comprehensive statement was made in Los Angeles in a meeting with all 320 U.S. bishops, where he uncompromisingly laid down the law to American Catholics, listing what he thought was wrong with the U.S. church.

The Pope not only said Americans must unquestionably obey teachings on sexual morality. He pointedly told them they could be barred from receiving communion and other sacraments if they continued their maverick brand of "a la carte" Catholicism.

church's teachings and still receive the sacraments, he told them.

He ceded no ground to women, defending their dignity and equal rights in society but saying church teaching on their exclusion from the priesthood was clear and would not change.

The pontiff's message to U.S. Catholics was summed up in one short passage in his speech to the bishops:

"It has never been easy to accept the gospel teaching in its entirety and it never will be."

He said dissent could be expressed in the right context but made clear he would not tolerate any notion that the views of a dissenting theologian could have the same value as his own.

Throughout the nine-city tour, the Pope used the kind of direct language Americans have made their trademark and they replied to him in kind.

Chief Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the Pope was not surprised by the candour and that the pontiff appreciated and understood it. "He was able to do everything he wanted to with a good sense of feedback," Navarro-Valls told Reuters.

"He understands that this church is alive and it has problems and that is why he made the trip. All churches have problems," Navarro-Valls added.

He said he felt U.S. Catholics concentrated on the issues and on the papal message, in contrast to the Pope's first U.S. trip in 1979, when attention was focused on the pontiff as a fascinating new



Pope John Paul II

figure on the world scene. "The Pope speaks in words as well as gestures," Navarro-Valls said.

This time — and from both sides — there seemed to be more words and fewer gestures than in 1979.

The pontiff heard a few of his own bishops explain Americans' natural tendency to question authority and lament the disaffection caused by Vatican action to stifle dissent.

"It is painful for us... when we are cast in an adversarial position with the Holy See," Cardinal Joseph Bernardini told him.

On several occasions ordinary priests, nuns and lay Catholics chosen to address him served the once-in-a-lifetime chance to tell the leader of the world's more than 800 million Roman Catholics of their concerns.

In a carefully-worded and eloquent speech the night the Pope began the tour in Miami on September 10, American priest Frank McNulty told him of some

of the thorniest problems facing the church, including priestly celibacy and the role of women.

In San Francisco, where thousands of homosexuals protested against the Pope, two lay Catholic leaders told him Americans would not give up their belief in free debate for the sake of church unity.

"Though I know the church is not a democracy ruled by popular vote, I expect to be treated as a mature, educated and responsible adult," Donna Hanson told the Pope. "Not to question, not to challenge, not to have authority involve me in the process of understanding is to deny my dignity as a person and the rights granted to me by church and society."

An important sub-theme running through the trip, was the Pope's constant emphasis the United States' responsibilities as a rich, powerful nation, both to itself and to the world.

He bluntly told Americans the pursuit of wealth was not the pursuit of happiness and warned them of the dangers of materialism.

The United States still had much to do to help its growing Hispanic population and to ensure blacks achieved the full equality they fought for more than 20 years ago in the Civil Rights Movement, he said.

"Where the pursuit of wealth is treated as the supreme good, human beings become imprisoned in the hardening of their hearts and in the closing of their minds," he said in San Antonio.

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Moutawakel earns gold at Mediterranean Games

Greece protests Tunisian victory

LATAKIA, Syria (AP) — Moroccan Olympic champion Nawal El-Moutawakel won the women's 400-metre hurdles in meet-record time Monday at the 1987 Mediterranean Games.

El-Moutawakel, a student at Iowa State University in the United States, won in 56.27 seconds, ahead of Semra Aksu, whose time of 56.59 appeared to be a new Turkish national record for the event and matched the old Mediterranean Games record.

Immigrant Trojor of Italy won the bronze medal in 57.25 seconds.

"It was tough," El-Moutawakel said. "I didn't expect to win. I was tired."

"I just got here from the States and I ran yesterday and today."

Spain captured both the gold and silver in the men's 400-metre hurdles as Jose Alonzo led Jesus Arevalo to the finish line in 49.93 and 51.68 seconds.

Italy's Luca Gelfi raced home 21 seconds ahead of Spain's Eduardo Ruiz to win the 170-kilometre cycling race earlier in the day.

The 21-year-old Gelfi, a noted sprinter won the race from Aleppo to Latakia in 4 hours, 48 minutes and 11 seconds.

Teammate Fabrizio Bontempi won the bronze medal with a time of 4:49.18.

The victory gave Italy its 51st gold medal of the two-week tournament, just one less than its all-time best performance in the Olympic-style festival of European and Arab nations.

Italy won 52 golds at the 9th Mediterranean Games in Casablanca, Morocco, four years ago.

Tunisia's Fathi Bakoush climbed to the Mediterranean Games victory stand on Sunday after a day of wrangling over the eligibility of the top two finishers in Saturday's 10,000 metres race.

Greek runner Spiros Andriopoulos failed to show up for the Olympic-style medal ceremony.

Mediterranean Games.

He said Syrian officials at first tried to move them away, but "someone at the Medgames technical committee came over and allowed them to participate."

The Greek delegation had to make a protest after the race, because we did not have the time to make it before," he told the Associated Press.

An arbitration committee rejected the Greek protest because it was not signed by the right person, he said.

Medgames rules require that a protest should be signed by the head of the contesting delegation and the general secretary of the Olympic Committee of the country, "which I find realistically, practically impossible," Gangas said.

He denied Bakoush's assertion that the Greeks claimed he had bumped Andriopoulos during the run.

"I wasn't going to make way for him, but I didn't push him," he said. Gangas said he did not plan to push his protest beyond the organising committee.

Tabulation of medals at the 10th Mediterranean Games Monday:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1. Italy	50	34	19	103
2. Spain	11	15	25	51
3. Turkey	10	6	7	23
4. France	9	19	17	45
5. Yugoslavia	7	9	11	27
6. Greece	6	9	10	25
7. Syria	5	4	4	13
8. Morocco	3	3	4	10
9. Albania	3	1	4	8
10. Tunisia	2	3	3	8
11. Egypt	—	2	3	5
12. San Marino	—	1	—	1
13. Algeria	—	—	3	3
14. Cyprus	—	—	—	—
15. Lebanon	—	—	—	—
16. Libya	—	—	—	—
17. Malta	—	—	—	—
18. Monaco	—	—	—	—

Toyota, Nissan fight for supremacy

ABIDJAN (R) — Japanese works teams Toyota and Nissan begin a major battle for supremacy — and car sales — in West Africa's Ivory Coast Rally on Tuesday.

The only other factory team entered in the 3,875 km test is Volkswagen, competing for the first time.

Toyota have a strong three-car entry in the world drivers' championship qualifier, headed by Bjorn Waldegard, winner last year.

The experienced Swede has also triumphed in Kenya's Safari Rally, held on equally tough terrain, and arrives in Abidjan fresh from success in the non-championship Hong Kong-Peking Rally which ended on Friday.

Zico scores for Flamengo

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — World Cup striker Zico converted a penalty two minutes from time to give Flamengo a 2-1 victory over traditional rivals Vasco Da Gama in a Brazilian League soccer match at Maracana Stadium on Sunday.

Bebeto had scored for Flamengo with a solid header in

the 31st minute. Roberto "dynamite" equalised for Vasco Da Gama after 49 minutes.

In the closing moments Flamengo's left-wing Zinho was brought down by right-back Paulo Roberto and Zico's penalty, hit low and hard to the right of goalkeeper Acacio, struck the post before going in.

Panova wins 5 golds at home championships

VARNA, Bulgaria (AP) — Bulgarian, led by teen-age sensation Blanka Panova who won four gold medals with perfect marks, closed the 13th World Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships by taking the gold in all six events held Sunday in this Black Sea resort.

Panova, who also won the gold medal in the overall individual competition on Saturday, became the first gymnast to win all five gold medals in the individual events at the world championships.

The 17-year-old Sofia high school student was also the first in world championship history to receive perfect marks of 10 in all eight of the floor exercises she performed in the overall competition and individual exercises.

"I didn't think about anything" while performing, said Panova, speaking at a news conference about how she kept her poise before the wildly enthusiastic audience.

On Sunday, eight finalists competed for gold, silver and bronze medals in each of the individual floor exercises — with a skipping rope, hoop, two clubs and a six-metre ribbon.

Prost holds record Grand Prix wins

ESTORIL, Portugal (AP) — The race was a microcosm of the driving skills that enabled Alain Prost to set a record in Formula One history.

With a smooth and steady performance, Prost gained his 28th Formula One Grand Prix victory. That broke the tie he had with Jackie Stewart since May at 27.

It was the third Formula One victory of the year for the 32-year-old Frenchman who had started 117 Grand Prix events. Stewart did his 27 in 99 races.

On Sunday, Prost gradually wore down Gerhard Berger in a thrilling duel at the Portuguese Grand Prix between Prost's McLaren-TAG and Berger's Ferrari.

The victory may have been the direct result of Berger's spin on the 68th of 70 laps, but it was helped by Prost's relentless pressure and unwillingness to fold.

"I hope everyone will remember this race for a long time because I was driving right on the limit," Prost said. "When Berger spun, I was not surprised. I took all the risks to finish and almost spun once or twice."

Prost said he felt he was going to catch up with Berger after gradually cutting into the margin lap-after-lap with blistering turns of the 4.35-kilometre autodrome.

"I didn't want to take second, so I decided to push it to the end," Prost said. "I was very lucky to catch Berger, but I felt I would be able to catch him anyway."

"When I changed tires, I really started pushing. I don't think there is any more carbon on my brake pads," Prost said.

Knowing he had "just enough" to finish was instrumental: Berger's slight miscalculation two laps before the end cost Ferrari their first Formula One victory since 1985.

Berger had the lead from the second lap after starting on the pole. After 39 laps, Berger was cruising when Prost finally moved into second place 16 seconds behind.

They duelled over the last 30 laps, setting record after record. Berger's 1 minute 19.282 seconds broke the 1:20.943 record set by Britain's Nigel Mansell set in winning last year's race.

Berger was still 2.4 seconds ahead after the record lap on the 66th tour. But Prost was pressing ahead, moving within sight of Berger on the home straight-away.

"I knew I needed two or three seconds and I wanted to put in a fast lap," Berger said. "But the car was at its limit with the tires and brakes. It was impossible to control."

He went into a spin and Prost sped past to gain a 20.493 second victory.

Berger righted his car in time to still gain seconds ahead of Nelson Piquet of Brazil.

Prost set a race record, averaging 188.224 kmph, bettering Mansell's mark with 1 hour, 37 minutes, 3.906 seconds over the 304.5 kilometres.

Piquet gained four points to widen his lead in the drivers' standings. He has 67 points with Ayrton Senna of Brazil, seventh Sunday, still at 49.

Prost's victory gave him 40 points with a slight mathematical chance to catch Piquet. However, the Frenchman has all but conceded the championship he won the last two years.

"I'm a bit disappointed that I'm not going to be world champion this year," Prost said. "But I feel with my 28th victory I fulfilled my contract."



Jockey Steve Cauthen and stablegirl Alison Dean delight in Reference Point's record-breaking victory in Saturday's St. Leger at Doncaster race.

Fancied Celestial Storm to miss Arc race

LONDON (R) — Celestial Storm, strongly fancied to win the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, has been withdrawn from the race to be held at Longchamp on Oct. 4.

A stable spokesman said on Monday that the colt, runner-up to Reference Point in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, would not race because of injury and his future was in doubt.

The Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe had been Celestial Storm's main target this season after finishing runner-up in the St. Leger last year.

Bookmakers withdrew Celestial Storm from their Arc betting on Friday after rumours that all was not well with the colt. But trainer Luca Cumani said at the time: "There is nothing wrong with him. At present he is perfectly well and is still on target for the Arc."

Boxer dies after fight

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — An Indonesian boxer died from brain injuries less than 12 hours after a professional fight in the Irian Jaya provincial capital of Jayapura, the Indonesian Boxing Commission said Monday.

The commission said Agus Suissa, 28, who was National Amateur Flyweight Champion before turning professional in 1985, was knocked unconscious Saturday night by compatriot Michael Arthur in the eighth round of a scheduled 10-round non-title bout.

Suissa, who died Sunday, never regained consciousness, the commission said.



DEFENDING THE TOP POSITION: French Open champion Steffi Graf of West Germany, the world number one, will defend her European indoor tennis title in Zurich next month, the organiser said on Monday. Rene Stambach said he expected three other players from the top 10 to take part.

Foreigners dominate Italian soccer

LONDON (R) — Sultry September heat failed to slow down Italy's foreign players who went on a record goal-scoring spree to claim half the 24 goals in First Division matches on Sunday.

The foreign firepower surprisingly was not generated by much-vaunted new signings such as Ian Rush, Dutch international Marc Van Basten and Raul Gullit, and the Maradona brothers.

Austria's Anton Polster (Torino) and Walter Schachner (Avezzano), West Germany's Rudi Voller (Roma) and old favourites Daniele Passarella of Argentina (Inter), Poland's Zbigniew Boniek (Roma) and Brazil's Junior (Pescara) were the stars of the day.

Welsh international Rush, making his debut for Juventus after five weeks of injury, touched the ball only 13 times in the 1-0 defeat at Empoli played in 30-degree heat.

"I got so few touches of the ball that I could hardly say I was tired. To really get on form I've got to sort out a few problems — the language, the heat and my understanding with the rest of the team," said Rush, signed for \$4.6 million.

Junior's goal in a 2-1 win over Pisa helped newly-promoted Pescara to the top of the league above defenders Napoli, 2-1 winners over Ascoli.

The much-heralded "battle of the Maradonas" failed to live up to expectations. Neither Napoli captain Diego or Hugo of Ascoli managed to score.

Asked whether he could be fired, Venables said: "I would not be surprised. They have been talking about it for a week."

The three goals raised Real's tally to 21 in four league games and coach Leo Benbaker said there would have been more but for Ossuna's brilliant goalkeeper Roberto.

Free-spending Atletico suffered their first defeat, a 1-0 loss at Celta, and now trail Real by three points. "We lack rhythm and coordination," admitted coach Luis Meootti.

aged to score.

Diego, however, offered some brotherly advice after seeing Hugo tangled in some vigorous pushing and shoving. "I'm glad he's tough enough to push back but he's got to learn to do it when the referee's back is turned," the Argentine star said.

In contrast to Italy's scoring burst, Spanish leader Real Madrid were held to their lowest league tally this season but still emerged 3-0 home winners over Osasuna, while rivals Barcelona lost at home to Valencia.

Newly-promoted Valencia moved to second place, one point behind Real, while Barcelona's third defeat in four games left them six points behind the unbeaten leaders.

"I'll put that right in eight or 10 days," said Barcelona President Luis Munoz, who met with English coach Terry Venables and other team officials for three hours after the match.

Asked whether he could be fired, Venables said: "I would not be surprised. They have been talking about it for a week."

The three goals raised Real's tally to 21 in four league games and coach Leo Benbaker said there would have been more but for Ossuna's brilliant goalkeeper Roberto.

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Egypt qualifies for soccer semifinals

CAIRO (R) — A last-minute goal by midfielder Ala Mayah gave Egypt's National a second chance on Sunday to beat Africa Sport of Ivory Coast 6-2 in penalty shootout and qualify for the semifinal round to Africa Champions' Cup.

National, who lost the first away leg 0-2 to Africa Sport, showed from the start they were out for revenge but haste and a rough play from the visitors spoiled their repeated attacks.

A capacity crowd of 120,000 spectators had to wait until 56th minute when striker Hassan opened the scoring with a powerful backword shot from a box area.

Africa Sport missed several times as they tried hard to chase the National's offensive game with surprise attacks but were frustrated by home goalkeeper Ahmed Shubier.

Desperate fans were preparing to leave Cairo Stadium when Mayahoub received a cross on a metre from the goal line to level the home equaliser amidst the defenders.

Tunisian referee Ali Bin Nasser showed the red card to Africa Sport's Yaro when he hit Hassan in injury time. Two more players from the visitors were cautioned.

National, three-time winners of Africa's Cup Winners Cup, took advantage of the penalty shootout. Taher Abu Zeid, Bas Ragab, Hassan and Ayman Shawki scored for National.

Patrice and Momo scored for Africa Sport. But Legino missed when his shot hit the bar as Shubier saved Iman's.



Ben Johnson

Johnson keeps world record

MONTE CARLO (R) — Canada's Ben Johnson surprised everybody when he left rivals trailing over 100 metres at an international athletics meeting in Monaco on Sunday.

The world record holder clocked 10.15 seconds with closest rival Francesco Pavan of Italy 11 metres behind in 10.31.

Kenya's world champion Konchellah suffered a cruel defeat when he came fifth in 8.800 metres, won by Britain's T. McKean in one minute 45 seconds.

Korean Olympic war continue as Seoul rejects direct talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea will send a reply Tuesday rejecting North Korea's demand for direct North-South Korean talks on the North's demand to be a co-host of the 1988 Seoul Olympics, a top sports official said Monday.

The commission said Agus Suissa, 28, who was National Amateur Flyweight Champion before turning professional in 1985, was knocked unconscious Saturday night by compatriot Michael Arthur in the eighth round of a scheduled 10-round non-title bout.

Suissa, who died Sunday, never regained consciousness, the commission said.

"Since the proposed direct talks are an Olympic matter, it is desirable that three-way talks are held under the sponsorship of the IOC (International Olympic Committee)," Kim said.

The North sent a letter last Tuesday proposing direct talks between the two Koreas, bypassing the Lausanne, Switzerland-based IOC. It said issues holding up agreement were mainly between the North and South.

Kim visited Lausanne last week and held talks with IOC President Juan Samaranch on the new North Korean proposal.

In what was described as "a final offer" the IOC proposed in June that North Korea be allowed to stage the women's volleyball, table tennis, archery, 100-kilometre road cycling and some soccer preliminaries in the 1988 Olympics.

South Korea accepted the IOC suggestion but North Korea demanded more sports, including all of the soccer competition.

Pyongyang has threatened to organise a boycott by Communist nations unless its demand is met

but the IOC has said the Seoul Olympics will be the largest ever with almost all countries participating.

Meanwhile, the North's official Korean Central News Agency monitored in Tokyo, said Ch Chung Guk, vice chairman of the North's Olympic Committee criticised the IOC Monday for sending member nations invitations to the "Seoul Olympics."

Chin also said prospects were dim for co-hosting the Olympics.

The agency quoted Chin as saying the invitations were sent last Thursday "contrary to the unanimous expectation of the world people for the joint hosting of the 24th Olympic Games in the North and the South."

The North has maintained the Seoul is an unfit host for the Olympics, but that making Seoul and Pyongyang co-hosts would help toward reunification of the Korean Peninsula, divided since 1945 into the Communist North and anti-Communist South.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.6525/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3155/65	Canadian dollar
	1.8105/15	West German marks
	2.0370/80	Dutch guilders
	1.5005/15	Swiss francs
	37.57/60	Belgian francs
	6.0275/0325	French francs
	1307/1308	Italian lira
	143.20/30	Japanese yen
	6.3600/50	Swedish crowns
	6.6275/6325	Norwegian crowns
	6.9575/9625	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	458.20/70	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares firmed in late afternoon trading, reflecting Wall Street's opening surge higher, but prices were slightly below their best here on a lack of follow through.

Dealers described trading as fairly modest and expressed surprise that business was not as active as last Friday. By 1410 GMT the FTSE 100 index had extended Friday's 24 point gain by 6.2 points to 2,334.5, but had been as high as 2,335.500 Monday.

Equities attracted some demand first thing on Monday on a continuation of last week's optimism about the U.K. economy. But the FTSE 100 index dipped to a low of 2,328.2 around midsession on caution after Kleinwort Benson's £143.6 million rights issue.

Last week's optimism on encouraging U.K. economic figures was fuelled by favourable weekend press comment and speculation that British base lending rates will hold steady for a while.

News late last week of a smaller than expected £2 billion rise in August bank lending was encouraging money market participants to push interbank sterling rates easier. The easier trend sparked some speculation in the money markets that the next move in base rates could now be downwards.

The bullishness over interest rates was not fully translated in to the government bond market which showed movements of 3/16 point either way in the face of steady sterling and U.S. bonds.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Early morning upsets or restlessness are followed by a good chance to wind up the loose strings of a project you began some time ago. Your problem solving ability will be great today. Get some rest.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) This is a perfect opportunity to settle some troubling business matters. Be sure you do your share of any cooperative activities.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make sure you keep a promise you've made to your mate, or risk a possible misunderstanding and argument by renegeing.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Some unfinished work at home can be finished quickly and easily if you use some enthusiasm. Don't invite any argumentative guests in.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Today is ideal for running errands, paying bills and visiting friends. Handle some neglected correspondence today.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Review and revise your accounts this morning. Check your possessions for possible needed repairs. If you find any, make them immediately.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A friend could make a critical remark which bothers you today, but don't lose your temper; it was constructive and will help you later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Stop living in a dream world and turn your ideas into reality. Do something thoughtful for your mate just for the heck of it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

If you lack a sense of direction, confer with some successful acquaintances and get their advice. This will be a happy evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Know what is expected of you from your superiors; they may be scrutinizing your performance today. Be conscientious.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can have great success in gathering needed information, so find it and use it. A newcomers attitude may disturb you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Your mate may have some doubts about your activities this morning, but will be supportive later. Use great care while driving today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A partner may act strangely this morning, but once your point is understood, he will be very helpful. Dress nicely for a social function.

If your child is born today he or she will have great ability at engineering, reading blueprints and record keeping. If provided with a good education along these lines, your progeny could be highly successful. Your child's early years will be somewhat difficult, but the later life will be much easier and very profitable. Sports are a must for your child.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel. What you make of your life is largely up to you."

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G-5 meeting overshadows dollar

TOKYO (R) — The dollar ended higher in Tokyo on Monday but did not move very far either side of 143 yen after conflicting reports about what major industrialised nations will decide for it in Washington this week.

In Japan, the shockwaves from last Friday's announcement of an 11 per cent rise in August M-2 money supply translated into further official fears of inflation and teething criticism of U.S. steamroller solutions to world trade problems.

"We are sitting on a barrel of gunpowder, and the powder is getting drier and drier," said a Bank of Japan official.

Tokyo stocks and bonds, hit by further rumours that more Japanese companies had suffered heavy trading losses on high-risk financial investments, had no time to consider the implied threat of interest rate rises to check money growth.

Fears over the corporate losses sent them lower anyway. The Tokyo stocks index did rise 67.58 points to 24,912.42 over the day but lost most of its sharp gains in the morning.

The dollar closed at 143.08 yen after Friday's 142.50/60 New

York finish, and at 1.8080/85 marks after 1.8055/65.

A Japanese newspaper report on Sunday, quoting an unidentified U.S. monetary official as saying he wanted to see the dollar between 140-160 yen, had operators buying back dollars just in case the Group of Five (G-5) nations agree to do just that at International Monetary Fund (IMF) meetings this week.

A similar report that the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain and France, along with Italy and Canada, would lower their dollar target range to 130-150 yen, had the opposite effect last Friday.

The worry over which way G-5 will leap is directly connected to the trade problem, and to Japan's fears over domestic money supply and inflation.

The U.S. trade deficit continues to rise despite the now weak dollar and high yen, which theoretically ought to have made imports too expensive for U.S. consumers and cut Japanese exports by making them too expensive.

Washington has recently cooled off on its calls for a lower and lower dollar but is still

pushing Tokyo to oil its domestic economy to keep world growth running.

Signs of Japanese irritation emerged in an American magazine interview with Mr. Hidetoshi Ukiawa, Tokyo's consul-general in the United States.

"The U.S. seems to be setting itself up as the judge of what is fair and unfair in trade, moving to arrogate to itself the functions of judge, jury, and executioner," he told Newsweek.

Japan's monetary authorities find it increasingly hard to justify low interest rates necessary to sustain high domestic growth, and, incidentally, healthy stock and bond markets.

Further strains in the system appeared Monday. Japan's long-term bonds said they would almost certainly be raising their won prime interest rates later this week.

Long-term bankers said the August money-supply figures had persuaded the authorities this was necessary.

Chief cabinet secretary, Mr. Masaharu Gotoda, also said that Japan had been too quick to stimulate its economy.

Istanbul stock market looks to expansion

ISTANBUL (R) — Istanbul's fledgling stock exchange is already soaring to new highs, but brokers say its future as a major investment centre could hinge on whether it can expand its range of issues and attract foreign players.

The exchange index hit 1,149 at end-August, compared with a base 100 when the market started in January 1986. It opened this day at 270 and climbed rapidly to 800 in May.

The rise was triggered by an influx of domestic investors, now estimated at 100,000.

But the exchange, which has 260 listed firms, 50 of them on the main board, still does not have enough tradable shares.

Trading volume — 24 billion lira, equivalent to \$26.6 million in August — is small compared with most other markets.

Many big issues are from basically family-owned companies nervous of public holdings. Generally, they do not place more than 20 per cent of their shares on the market, the brokers say.

This caution stems in part from a long tradition of family ownership and secrecy, while the public remembers crashes in unlicensed bond market dealing in 1982 and 1983 when many people lost savings.

The current stock exchange has more checks and controls.

The brokers said a massive privatisation scheme proposed by Turkey's conservative government could now boost the market further if carried out in a way designed to attract investors.

"If you package a thing right you can sell almost anything in Turkey," said Mr. Niko Maksimiyadis, managing director of Turkinvest, a subsidiary of the Asian Oceanic Group.

The proposal, however, triggered market jitters when Prime Minister Turgut Ozal talked publicly last month about the programme.

Brokers said some people took fright at this, fearing a big issue of shares in those six firms that have government equity participation and are already listed on the exchange.

"People tried to sell their shares in the six, thinking they would go down ... this continued for two weeks before calming down. Last Friday, we saw a cautious mood of renewed optimism," said Mr. Kenan Atasavun, an adviser to the stock exchange.

Brokers express concern that the exchange is over-controlled by Turkish authorities and say some of the regulations on foreign participation should be relaxed.

"I am very hopeful that something will be done and that the market will open to outsiders," said Turkinvest's Maksimiyadis.

"There is great demand from outside. With an upswing in stock markets worldwide, every unit trust manager is looking for something to add to his collection," he said.

Brokers say the exchange could become a major part of Turkey's capital markets. "The momentum has been created by market

happenings elsewhere in the world," one said.

One international broker said: "People are now looking for exotic markets all over the world to try to make quick money."

A law many brokers want changed is one restricting the amount of Turkish currency foreigners are allowed to buy and sell but which does not differentiate between active and passive investments.

Some brokers believe the government is considering liberalising the law to make such a differentiation and allow profit repatriation.

Entry to the market of foreigners and privatisation of state-owned enterprises such as the Sumerbank textile and retail group is expected, in the longer term, to persuade some other big Turkish firms to float shares on the market.

Brokers say there is no clear plan yet on the government's privatisation plan but an announcement may be made after the Nov. 1 general election, when Mr. Ozal's Motherland Party is widely expected to be returned for five years.

Japan offers proposals to halt bribes in developing countries

TOKYO (R) — Japan has made public proposals to stop Japanese corporations bribing officials in developing countries.

The proposals were outlined on Monday by an advisory panel to the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), a Japanese government agency which provides financing for development projects.

The panel was set up in September last year after Washington disclosed documents which allegedly traced kickbacks by U.S. and Japanese firms to former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos.

The 12-member panel proposed that the names of companies that win orders for OECF-financed projects should be published, provided the borrowing country agrees, an agency spokesman said.

The proposals also include publication of various guidelines regarding bidding procedures, appointment of consultants and other procedures.

The OECF plans to implement those measures as soon as possible, the spokesman said.

Kuwait to issue Gulf's first treasury bonds

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait said on Sunday it would borrow up to 1.4 billion dinars (\$5 billion) through direct loans, treasury bills and the Gulf's first treasury bonds.

Bankers said it would be the first time the oil-rich emirate had borrowed to finance its state budget deficit, which has been widening because of falling oil and investment income.

The Kuwait News Agency KUNA said the council of ministers approved a law authorising the government to issue treasury bills and bonds and to borrow directly from finance institutions.

In the past, Kuwait drew on its reserves to finance repeated budget deficits since 1981.

The gap climbed to a record 1.3 billion dinars (\$4.6 billion) in the fiscal year ending last June as world oil prices crashed and lower interest rates hit investment income.

KUNA gave no further details and did not indicate how or when the borrowing would take place.

But bankers indicate they expected treasury bonds to be

issued by the end of the November for terms of between one and ten years.

They said the cash would be raised on the local market, where liquidity is high and profitable investment and lending opportunities are slim.

Other Gulf Arab states have issued short-term treasury bills to raise cash and provide a rudimentary tool of monetary control. But Kuwait, often a trailblazer in Gulf financial instruments, is the first to issue treasury bonds.

"The move is long overdue," said one senior banker. "Why should our money continue to go outside the country when it is needed here?"

"The bonds will cover the deficit, provide a safe trading instrument and save our reserves from being run down," he said.

"The bonds are expected to be

offered on a secondary market established last year in the Kuwait Stock Exchange. Bankers say they will encourage private capital to stay home at a time when the Iran-Iraq war threatens to undermine business confidence.

A study by the National Bank of Kuwait put Kuwait's local and foreign reserves at \$86 billion at the end of 1986, the highest in the Gulf.

But it estimated the reserves had declined by three billion dinars (\$11 billion) in the last three fiscal years. It projected the decline this year at one billion dinars (\$3.6 billion).

Bankers said the relatively high borrowing ceiling in the new law could provide funds for unbudgeted expenditure such as development projects frozen in previous years of defence.

They said direct borrowing from local commercial banks could help them to cope with large non-performing loans they inherited from the Souk Al Manakh stock market crash in 1982.

British miners start overtime ban

LONDON (R) — Miners across Britain began an overtime ban on Monday launching their first campaign of industrial action since calling off a bruising year-long clash with Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in 1985.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), traditionally regarded as the shock force of the British labour movement, called the ban over plans by state-run British Coal to change the miners' 40-year-old disciplinary code.

British Coal said the ban was expected to have little effect initially as very little coal was produced on overtime, but miners' leader, Mr. Arthur Scargill, said there was growing support in the coalfields for even tougher action.

"The first indications from the coalfields show mounting support for more intense overtime ban than the one decided on last Thursday," he said.

The NUM has agreed to continue safety and maintenance work which is carried on during overtime on Sundays but miners' leaders in the Yorkshire coalfield, Britain's biggest, meet Tuesday to consider stepping up the ban.

A ban on maintenance would seriously disrupt production. But industry sources said miners in parts of South Wales, Scotland and northern England were cautious about the ban and were determined not to let it threaten their pay package.

British Coal wants to change the disciplinary code to break the NUM's hold on the arbitration system by scrapping pit-umpires, generally former union officials, who adjudicated in disputes over dismissal of union members.

British Coal made an 11th hour appeal on Sunday for normal working, saying the action would only hurt the miners and their families.

It has warned the 90,000 NUM members that the ban could lead to pit closures and that its effects could cost the industry £10 million (\$16.5 million) a week.

Industry sources said high coal stocks, estimated at 19.6 million tonnes, would make the effects of the ban negligible for the first six weeks.

The NUM action was also likely to be weakened by the 23,000-strong break-away Union of Democratic Mineworkers, formed in 1985 after the strike over plans to close uneconomic pits.

The strike, which split the nation, pitted Mr. Scargill's staunch Marxism against Mrs. Thatcher's firm belief in free market economics and was finally abandoned when impoverished union members drifted back to work.

British Coal has since carried out its plans to streamline the industry by closing 41 pits and slashing 56,000 jobs.

Sudan considers improving railways

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's rundown and overmanned state railway corporation is getting a \$70 million financial injection aimed at doubling its capacity by 1990.

Once the country's only reliable means of transportation, the Sudan Railways Corporation (SRC) has steadily deteriorated in the past two decades due to lack of funds, competition from roads, political interference, management problems and a dearth of spare parts.

"Our trains now are like skeletons sliding on rail," Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said recently.

The corporation has an annual capacity of 600,000 tonnes — a

fifth of the three million in the 1960s — but under a programme adopted by the government earlier this month this will increase by 100 per cent in three years.

The SRC operates 4,750 kilometres of lines from Port Sudan and Wadi Halfa in the north to Wau in the south and Al Obeid in the west.

The plight of the railway, whose 33,000 workers make it the country's biggest employer with monthly wages costing the treasury 10 million pounds (\$4 million), first came to light during the 1984-85 drought.

The corporation was unable to ferry the food brought into the country by foreign donors and

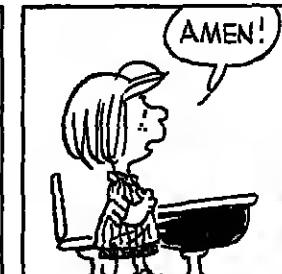
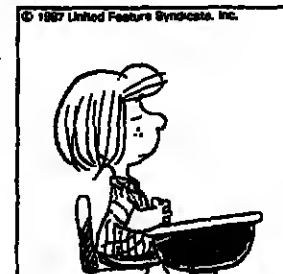
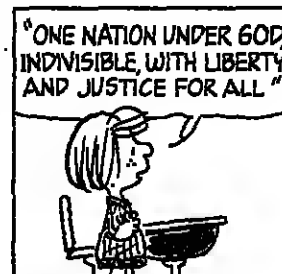
needed by the destitute in the western and eastern parts of Sudan.

The World Bank now has agreed to finance a three-year programme to rehabilitate the corporation with a \$70 million loan. Further talks between the banks and the government will be held next month.

Under the plan, the SRC workforce will be pared by 15 per cent and some 30 foreign experts will be brought in to help run the railway system.

Transport Minister Aldo Ajo Deng has pledged that no workers will be laid off. Instead they will be redeployed in SRC production units.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

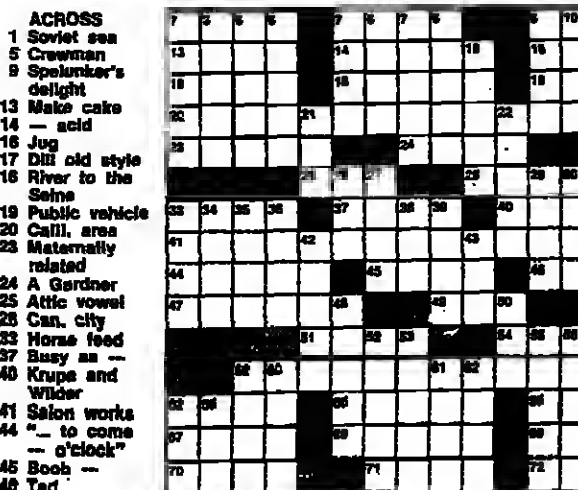


Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword

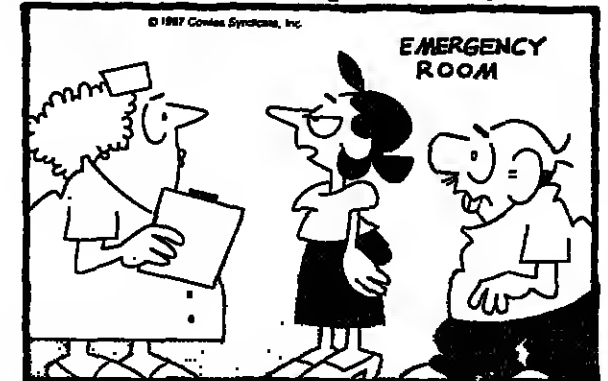
by Judson G. Trent



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- ACROSS
- 1 Soviet sea
 - 2 Crewman
 - 3 Spelunker's delight
 - 4 Male cake
 - 5 Acid
 - 6 Jew
 - 7 Dill old style
 - 8 River to the Seine
 - 9 Public vehicle
 - 10 Calli area
 - 11 Maternity related
 - 12 A Gardner
 - 13 Attic vowel
 - 14 Can city
 - 15 Horse head
 - 16 Busy as —
 - 17 Krupke and Wilner
 - 18 Sales works
 - 19 "to come —"
 - 20 "clock"
 - 21 Book
 - 22 Tad
 - 23 Shed
 - 24 Utter
 - 25 It, medieval fortress city
 - 26 Nile up
 - 27 Quiet circuit breaker
 - 28 Slightly open
 - 29 Win by —
 - 30 Copperfield's wife
 - 31 Jaffie or Barrett
 - 32 Adjust a clock
 - 33 Again
 - 34 Author's work
 - 35 Antitoxins
 - 36 Appear
- DOWN
- 1 Bellite
 - 2 Arrested
 - 3 Cub Scout
 - 4 "Be"
 - 5 — zapras
 - 6 A Land
 - 7 Chaparral
 - 8 Former Near East coin
 - 9 Whale
 - 10 Irritate
 - 11 Silk worm
 - 12 Violin cousin
 - 13 So-so grade
 - 14 Sift
 - 15 Sunbathing result
 - 16 Touch
 - 17 Yurt
 - 18 Warhol
 - 19 Time span
 - 20 Air fox
 - 21 Ring stone
 - 22 Adoniam
 - 23 Toodle—oo
 - 24 Submachine gun
 - 25 Caricature kin
 - 26 Recedes
 - 27 Between: prof.
 - 28 Meadow
 - 29 Screen award
 - 30 Deviate from a course
 - 31 Ala
 - 32 Irregularly notched
 - 33 Rich man
 - 34 Epistle
 - 35 Bristle
 - 36 Foreunner of the oboe
 - 37 Cal type
 - 38 Part of QE
 - 39 North Sea
 - 40 leader
 - 41 Bristle
 - 42 Finesse
 - 43 Guy

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

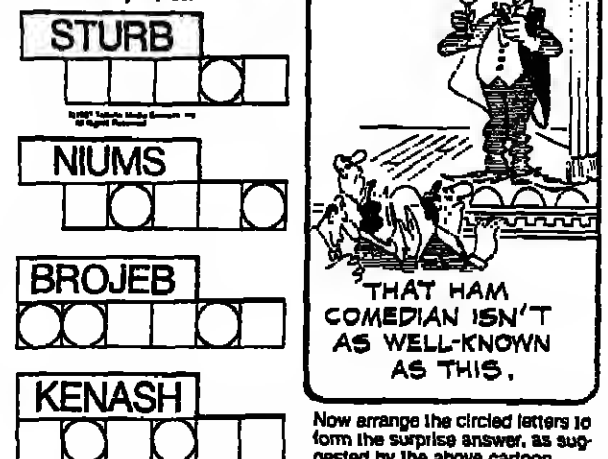


"SPORTS INJURY! HE OVERTRAINING HIS DIGESTIVE TRACT PREPARING FOR THE 1988 OLYMPIC VIEWING TEAM!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: INKED BROOK UNTUNE EMPLOY

Answer: How that ponderous timber tycoon moved—HE, "LUMBERED"

Chun hails new draft constitution

Seoul opposition to choose top candidate this month

SEOUL (R) — President Chun Doo Hwan hailed South Korea's new draft constitution on Monday as a monumental work of compromise by rival political parties and pledged to work for the rest of his term for "genuine liberal democracy."

Mr. Chun said in a statement: "Since this constitutional revision bill is the first of its kind in our constitutional history forged by consensus among the governing and opposition parties, it can be properly regarded as a monument opening a new chapter in the political development of Korea."

"Let us all march onward even more forcefully toward a genuine liberal democracy..."

Mr. Chun issued his statement to mark the formal publication of the draft text, a preliminary step to constitutional revision required under his 1980 constitution.

The new charter, which provides for free, direct presidential elections, greater human rights and a freer press, is expected to pass parliament with bipartisan support on Oct. 12, and be put to a national referendum around Oct. 27.

The ruling and opposition parties have agreed to hold what will be the country's first direct presidential vote for 16 years before Dec. 20 to choose a successor to Mr. Chun, whose seven-year term expires in February.

Recent inter-party agreement on this timetable should ensure the nation's first peaceful transfer of power. It is expected to end almost three years of often violent confrontation between government and opposition over demands for full democracy.

The charter is a direct product of almost three weeks of massive anti-government protests in June that eventually forced Mr. Chun's authoritarian government to concede democratic reforms.

It proposes a single five-year presidential term instead of the current seven years, a step aimed at preventing lengthy one-man rule and the risk of dictatorship.

It would also curtail the president's virtually unlimited emergency powers by depriving him of the right to dissolve the National Assembly almost at will and by strengthening the authority of both parliament and the judiciary.

South Korea's two leading dissidents agreed on Monday to try to decide this month which of them should run for December elections for a successor to President Chun Doo Hwan, opposition officials said.

They said Kim Dae-Jung and Kim Young-Sam, co-leaders of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), also agreed to form a committee to arrange for a party national convention to formally announce a presidential candidate, probably next month.

The agreement was reached at a meeting between the Kims, vying for the RDP's nomination, and their representatives will help complete negotiations by the end of this month, the officials said.

The two leaders have in recent weeks engaged in an increasingly open rivalry for the South Korean presidency.

One RDP official said: "There still exist huge obstacles to an harmonious agreement between the two Kims before they draw a final decision about who's going to run, but the latest mutual accord is regarded as a significant step towards promised reconciliation between them."

The Kims, both former presidential contenders, have pledged to arrive at a pact through consultation and not compete in a vote seeking the opposition nomination.

They say this is because any serious split between them would only play into the hands of a strong government camp, with ruling party chief Roh Tae-Woo.

Mr. Chun's proposed successor, already campaigning in full gear, had been swamped with telephone calls from Filipinos wanting to know if she was about to reverse her earlier stance and declare a state of emergency.

Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos said on radio he had appointed a new chief of the capital region military command but gave no reason.

Gen. Ramos stripped three army generals and at least eight colonels of their commands for their alleged involvement in the failed Aug. 28 coup attempt. Six other lower-ranking officers were also relieved of their posts but the reasons were not immediately clear.

Among those sacked were coup leader Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and Brigadier-General Edgardo Abenina, Dominican Casas and Federico Pasion.

The Communist New People's Army has sworn its "Sparrow Unit" assassination squads will avenge the murder of Alejandro, secretary-general of the New Patriotic Alliance (Bayan) Coalition.

Mrs. Aquino called her military chiefs to a meeting at the presidential palace but there were no details of the agenda.

Earlier, in a Sunday evening radio programme, Mrs. Aquino urged Filipinos to turn political extremists in to the authorities.

"Point them out to us if you know anything about these people who are using violence," she said.

"If you hear anything let us know. We need the help of you all," she added.

Col. Templo warned that Mr. Alejandro's death could spark further violence and hasten emergency rule, a view reported to be backed by the president's brother-in-law, Senator Agapito Aquino.

"I believe if the situation exacerbates because of the killing... then our commander in chief (Mrs. Aquino) might declare a sort of (limited) martial law administration... just to reestablish peace and order," Col. Templo said.

In Washington, Secretary of State George Shultz on Sunday reaffirmed U.S. support for Mrs. Aquino, describing her as a "skilled political leader."

Mr. Shultz rejected the notion that her government — which has been threatened by five coup attempts, the bloodiest on Aug. 28 — is in danger of collapsing.

"She's not teetering," he said on ABC-TV's This Week With David Brinkley interview programme. "Look at all she's accomplished."

MANILA (R) — Communist rebels hijacked a train, raided two police outposts and bombarded a town hall with rifle-launched grenades in attacks in the Philippines that left 10 people dead, army reports said on Monday.

An army spokesman said the San Luis Municipal Hall in Pampanga province north of Manila was a total wreck after about 60 New People's Army (NPA) rebels attacked it on Sunday. A police sergeant and a guerrilla were killed in an ensuing gunbattle.

In the Bicol region south east of Manila, eight people were killed when 500 rebels on Sunday seized a government train, drove it in raids against two police outposts and abandoned it after blowing up a railway bridge.

The attack on Sunday cut rail links between Manila and the south of the main island of Luzon and brought to four the number of bridges destroyed by New People's Army guerrillas in the Bicol area this month, the army said.

The destruction of three concrete bridges earlier had partially severed road links between the capital.

Hundreds of people returning to Manila from a Bicol religious pilgrimage were stranded, officials said.

"They are apparently trying to isolate the region and it is the people who are most affected," Brigadier-General Luis San Andres, the area commander, told reporters.

Army reports said the Communist rebels intercepted the Manila-bound train in Camarines Norte province, 140 miles (225 kilometres) south east of the capital, forced passengers to lie down, and rode it to a nearby town, where they raided two police outposts.

In Manila, a senior Philippine military commander urged President Corason Aquino on Monday to consider imposing emergency rule as leftists, angry at the murder of one of their leaders, staged a banner-waving march in Manila.

Col. Emiliano Templo said on television he believed Mrs. Aquino may consider limited martial law if tension in the capital rises further and more violence follows the weekend death of left-wing leader Leandro Alejandro.

About 5,000 demonstrators waved red banners and shouted anti-military slogans in a demonstration which halted Manila traffic. There were no reports of violence.

Martial law talk swept Manila and presidential officials told reporters that Mrs. Aquino's office

unoccupied until it was secure. He is expected to announce a firm decision on the uncompleted building within weeks, the officials said.

They said the United States is also planning to spend tens of millions of dollars to renovate the existing 40-year-old U.S. embassy so it can be used for three to five more years, the newspaper said.

Some members of Congress have expressed outrage at the discovery of the Soviet bugging devices in the new embassy building. They and the Senate Intelligence Committee have urged that the building be demolished.

President Reagan has said the new embassy building would be

rebuilt Moscow embassy

NEW YORK (R) — The United States has tentatively decided to tear down and rebuild at least five floors of its problem-ridden new embassy building in Moscow, the New York Times said on Monday.

The newspaper, quoting senior administration officials, said the cost is estimated at \$92 million.

It would cost around \$109 million to rebuild the entire eight-story building, which an investigation showed was riddled with Soviet spying devices, the State Department said.

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